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LD0906132088 [Editorial Report]

Arab Summit Conference

If the Arab leaders find it "necessary and useful" to commit themselves to the principle of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state as a precondition to the convening of an international conference, Jordan will "not differ with them on that," King Husayn told the summit in a speech broadcast by Amman radio. Jordan would likewise agree if the Arabs insist that the PLO participate at the international conference in a separate delegation, "even if this does not lead to the convening of the conference."

However, he recommended that the Arabs adhere to the principle of PLO participation in the conference "without tying our hands with regard to details of the manner of participation," suggesting that the PLO participate under whatever arrangement facilitates the convening of the conference.

Husayn acknowledged that "sensitivities" and competitiveness in Jordanian-PLO relations have stemmed from suspicions that Jordan is seeking to reestablish control over the West Bank, and he noted that "certain voices" have depicted Jordan's support for the Palestinian uprising as an attempt by Jordan to "exercise hegemony over Palestinian land and to bypass the PLO."

However, the king rejected such interpretations of Jordanian policy, stressing that he has "no designs, ambitions, or goals" other than liberating Palestinian territories and enabling the Palestinians to determine their own destiny and regain their legitimate national rights. Jordan is prepared to honor "whatever you see fit," he told the conferees, and if the Palestinian people's representatives wish to remain separate from Jordan at present, Jordan will "bless and respect" their will, just as it respected the desire of Palestinian representatives to unite with Jordan in 1950.

As for the initiative put forward by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, King Husayn summarized his understanding of the U.S. proposals, noting that Jordan has "reservations" over a number of points but that the initiative is still the subject of dialogue between the United States, the USSR, and the involved Arab states. He warned that the United States "adopts no foreign policy in the Middle East other than support for Israel," contending that U.S. policy is based on "crisis-management," whereby peace initiatives only occur in response to wars and then end when the crises pass.

The Shultz initiative came in response to the Palestinian uprising, which the United States views as a Palestinian war against Israel, Husayn said, and the Arabs should accordingly give "organized and effective" support to continuing the uprising until it achieves its objective. The king said that Arab support for the uprising should be on three levels—political, financial, and moral—and he added that Jordan and Syria likewise require sustained financial support to withstand "aggressive and expansionist Zionist designs."

Noting that the confrontation states and the PLO have received only half the sums allocated to them under the terms of the 1978 Baghdad summit, Husayn called on the Arab states to honor their past commitments and to discuss future financial support, which "should be sustained until the reason for such support has ceased to exist."

In other developments outside the conference hall, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil held separate meetings with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In remarks carried by Tripoli television, Al-Qadhdhafi expressed hope that Maghreb leaders will hold a summit meeting of their own on the sidelines of the larger conference.

Asked about his talks with Malian President Moussa Traore, who is attending the summit in his capacity as OAU chairman, Al-Qadhdhafi said they discussed the Chad issue, adding that he told Traore of Libya's readiness to open a People's Bureau in Ndjamena and to accept an "embassy for Ndjamena" in Tripoli to promote understanding between Libya and Chad.

Israel

Comment on Husayn Speech—Responding to King Husayn's speech at the Arab summit conference, the Foreign Ministry said it included a "positive statement" about the Shultz plan, adding that Husayn is signaling that he is a serious partner to any future negotiations, Jerusalem television reported. In contrast, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told MA'ARIV that Husayn's speech dealt a "heavy blow" to the Shultz initiative.

Peres on USSR—Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres spoke in the Knesset about changes in Soviet policy which signify "tremendous progress," Jerusalem radio reported. The USSR is moving from a policy of confrontation to a policy of dialogue, Peres contended, and it has for the first time stated that Israel's security needs are no less important than Palestinian national aspirations.

West Bank—An Arab youth was shot dead by the IDF during a demonstration north of Nabulus 9 June, and another youth was wounded by IDF fire in Tulkarm, Jerusalem radio reported. Two rioters were wounded by IDF fire near Nabulus the previous day. The radio also disclosed that two IDF officers were hurt by a fire bomb in the Binyamin district 9 June.

Lebanon

IDF soldiers killed three "terrorists" north of the eastern sector of the security zone, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that the clash occurred when an IDF unit was searching for Katyusha launchers and "terrorist centers."

In Beirut, Syrian forces arrested 15 people in connection with the 7 June car bomb explosion in Al-Awza'i, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Six of the detainees are Hizballah members. The radio added that the owner of the booby-trapped car was a Hizballah official who was killed in the explosion.

One Palestinian was killed and three wounded in clashes between Fatah loyalists and dissidents in the Burj al-Barajinah camp, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes attacked a "medium-sized maritime target" off the coast of Iran 9 June, according to a military statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. An Iranian military communique reported by IRNA subsequently announced that an Iraqi Mirage was shot down in a dogfight over the Gulf. However, the claim was denied by an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA.

IRNA reported that Iraqi planes raided a village near Sar Dasht, killing one civilian and wounding six others, and a WIH spokesman citied by the agency denied an Iraqi charge that Iranian artillery shelled Darband-i Khan.

Afghanistan

In remarks cited by BAKHTAR, President Najibullah declared before the UN General Assembly that Afghanistan will repudiate any outside attempts to impose a political or economic system on it, and he reiterated that his administration is striving to create a coalition government and bring about national reconciliation. The president referred to the havoc that 10 years of war have wreaked on the people and economy of Afghanistan, noting that 243,900 soldiers and "civilian supporters of the state" have been killed and 77,000 injured since 1978. He appealed for "urgent international assistance" in the reconstruction of his war-torn country.

The consolidation of national sovereignty, the establishment of security, the reactivation of the economy, and the improvement of social services are prime goals of the new Council of Ministers, Prime Minister-Designate Muhammad Hasan Sharq explained to the Wolasi Jirgah in a speech broadcast by Kabul radio. On the subject of national reconciliation, Hasan Sharq noted that the government includes representatives of all Afghan nationality groups, and he invited the opposition to participate in the effort to serve their "misery-stricken land."

In Kapisa Province, north of Kabul, 13 people were killed and 10 wounded when rebels shelled a residential area, Kabul radio reported.

Sudan

The Armed Forces recently destroyed the "biggest" SPLA camp in the Upper Nile region and other rebel installations, seizing "large quantities" of arms and ammunition, according to a military statement reported by SUNA. The Army also continued its combing operations in Bahr al-Ghazal, the agency added.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further Reportage on Arab Summit in Algiers

Arab League's Klibi Speaks

JN0806083288 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1952 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Speech by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at the opening session of the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers on 7 June—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your Excellency the President of the Republic, and chairman of the summit; your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses: Gentlemen, for the second time in less than 7 months challenges to our pan-Arab security and central cause have necessitated an emergency summit at summit level to discuss the Palestinian people's uprising which has entered its 7th month. We consider this uprising a bright picture of this mujahid people whose uprising has placed the Arab-Israeli conflict at a decisive stage.

His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid's call for holding this summit and the response of the leaders to this call embody the certain Arab determination to support the uprising in response to our nation's aspirations for action to end the Israeli occupation of revolutionary Palestine, the challenging Golan Heights, and the resisting southern Lebanon. The convocation of the uprising summit in Algiers, this bright minaret in the Arab and world liberation movements, is enough to unite hopes with serious efforts and action.

Mr Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, world public opinion has become convinced that the revolution of the stone-throwers is not merely a wrath resulting from stifling economic and social conditions or a reply to an unjust administrative situation, but that which is taking place in the occupied territories is an expression of a brave and principled stand against foreign occupation and a determination to strongly resist this occupation.

It has become clear to the international community that the Palestinian people's uprising is an uprising of a people who reject the occupation of their territory and who are waging a deadly struggle to end this historic act of injustice in defense of their identity, and in adherence to their national inalienable rights and pan-Arab affiliation. International law supports the Palestinian people's just struggle, recognizes their demands, and considers them to have the right to resist this occupation.

This uprising has proven false Israel's claims of the nonexistence of a Palestine question and the lack of any connection between the Palestinians inside and outside Israel. These claims were refuted by the fact that all the Palestinians have joined the uprising, particularly those who have been living under occupation since 1948. They have joined this uprising, which has gradually begun to take on the basic characteristics that would turn the uprising of the masses into a popular revolution. This is clear through its daily escalation and determination, through its geographic and social expansion, and through its clear objectives.

The qualitative shift which is being experienced by the Palestinian resistance through this uprising gives the Arab-Israeli conflict its true position. Just as the Ramadan [1973] war was able to raise Arab morale and destroy the legend of Israeli military supremacy, this uprising has reinforced our confidence that the solution aspired is no longer remote. Yes, the revolution of the stone-throwers has escalated and placed the Palestine question in a new international orbit that will, through the pooling of efforts of all our states, constitute a decisive turning point that will guarantee a comprehensive settlement of this uprising and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We believe that this is possible after the whole world, encouraged by the awakening of its conscience, has begun calling for an end to the Israeli occupation, not only in defense of human values, but also to check the dangers posed by the continuation of this occupation against the region's security and world peace in general. This was stressed by the UN Security Council which denounced the Israeli occupation and its practices through successive resolutions that make us dutybound to thank all the states that voted in favor of these resolutions and all the international organizations and popular committees which expressed support for the Palestinian people's struggle. Undoubtedly it is still possible to exert intensified efforts to encourage further world action that is stronger and more effective, in order to take the cause out of the stage of theoretical talk into the stage of practical preparation.

For all these considerations, the summit gains extreme importance because it expresses the determination of our states to set a collective plan of action based on the Fes plan and the Amman summit resolutions—a plan that is aimed at holding an effective international conference that guarantees the restoration of the occupied Arab territories and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. If the dialogue between the two superpowers resulted in some detente in the atmosphere of international relations, then this would undoubtedly help settle regional issues. Consequently, this requires our states to further clarify and entrench their positions to exploit all available possibilities in the international arena.

Mr Chairman, your majesties, excellencies, and highnesses, can we speak about the revolution of the stone-throwers without linking it to the brave national resistance to the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, which hampered Israel's plans to usurp a large area of southern Lebanon, including the important water resources there. Despite the difficult conditions of our people in Lebanon, they also continued their daily resistance against the Israeli occupation and showed a determination to end this occupation and to stand fast in the face of its practices. This heroic struggle was not only in defense of Lebanon, but a defense of the Arab dignity. Proceeding from the principle of Arab solidarity, the Arab community extended aid to Lebanon and supported it at international forums to implement the UN Security Council resolutions calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory. Our states will continue to adhere to their commitments because a unified and sovereign Lebanon is an indivisible part of the Arab nation and an effective element in building its civilization.

Mr Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, when we express our pride in the revolution of the stone-throwers, for the sake of which we are basically meeting, we must not forget fraternal Iraq's victory of regaining Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh]. The continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the threats posed by this war to our pan-Arab security, taking into consideration Iraq's continuous positive response to international peace efforts, requires us to continue our efforts to stop this war and end the conflict in accordance with international law.

The continuation of this war and the escalation of its dangers against our states in the Arabian Gulf is due to the fact that UN Security Council Resolution 598 has continued to be obstructed despite the fact that much precious time was devoted, in various forms, in trying to convince Iran to implement it. It was clear from the very beginning that Iran would not respond to these efforts, especially since it has continued to threaten and carry out aggressions against the State of Kuwait, although it is a peaceful state and not a party to any conflict. Iraq's recent victories constitute a new turning point in the war that strengthens Iraq and reinforces its ability to confront the aggression.

In light of this, we wholeheartedly greet these victories, hoping that they will convince the Iranian officials that it is useless to continue this war because it will only bring further destruction. Out of our belief in good neighborliness, peace, and the need for Islamic fraternity, we appeal to the Iranian leadership to reconsider its rejection of peace. This is a sincere call by all our states to create an atmosphere for Arab-Iranian relations that would enable them to confront the true challenge posed by Zionist dangers against the entire Islamic nation.

The Iranian leadership should pay attention to the seriousness of its behavior against the Gulf states, particularly Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which consists of threatening them and creating seditions and riots during the pilgrimage season. This gives the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia the right to take all measures to guarantee the security and comfort of God's guests. All states that are friendly with Saudi Arabia are also dutybound to support it to organize the pilgrimage seasons in a manner that will safeguard Saudi Arabia's sovereignty and achieve the objectives of this important Islamic rite in accordance with the Amman summit recommendations.

Mr Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, needless to say that in order to enable our nation to assume its great responsibilities toward its fateful issues and to raise its voice at international forums and political meetings involving big powers, our states must speak with one voice based on defined and unanimous principles. The leaders of our states might deem it necessary to resume the good efforts exerted at the Arab League to clear the Arab atmosphere, after the Amman summit has given a new and strong impetus to efforts to achieve Arab reconciliation and after this region has witnessed a new atmosphere harboring good tidings for building the greater Arab Maghreb.

Mr Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, the Zionist entity in the occupied territories is carrying out the same repression which is being practiced by the apartheid regime in South Africa. One of the pillars of Arab-African cooperation is our joint struggle against these two fascist regimes. A great African guest is now among us with whom and with whose people we are linked with old and new ties. He came to Algiers out of his belief in fraternity and solidarity to attend with the leaders of the Arab states this great meeting in his capacity as OAU chairman. I refer to His Excellency Malian President Moussa Traore. Let us, through him, greet Arab-African solidarity and joint struggle against the fascist regime in South Africa and against the expansionist Zionist regime in occupied Palestine. We thank him for his attendance and the valuable speech he delivered during this session—a speech that embodied the solidarity between the Arab League and its sister the OAU.

Mr Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses; gentlemen, we reiterate our sincere appeciation and gratitude for this lofty and glorious country—president, government, and people—for calling for, hosting, and providing all the means required for the success of this summit. We greet the Palestinian people and express our solidarity with, and pride in, those who are confronting the Zionist tyranny and repression in all cities, villages, and quarters in the occupied Arab territories, and who are daily offering martyrs. The slogan of reconciliation and accord of the Amman summit embodies the belief of our states that Arab solidarity is the only means to confront threats to our pan-Arab security and to take care of our fateful issues. The meeting of the leaders of our states to achieve this objective is qualified to make the Algiers summit a bright mark in the march of joint Arab action. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Al-Asad Meets Al-Qadhdhafi

JN0806063988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Following the conclusion of the opening session of the extraordinary Arab summit, President Hafiz al-Asad met with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya.

Attending the meeting were 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice president; Faruq al-Shar', foreign affairs minister; Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolutionary Command Council.

During the meeting, the talks dealt with the Arab summit meetings and the situation in the Arab arena.

Husayn-'Arafat Talks 'Fruitful'

JN0806100988 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 8 Jun 88 p 18

[By AL-DUSTUR correspondent in Algiers]

[Text] Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri told AL-DUSTUR that His Majesty King Husayn's meeting with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday was fruitful and positive. He added that there are no points of disagreement between Jordan and the PLO.

He stated that Jordan's stand toward the Palestine question and the international peace conference is clear, as Jordan has always stressed that the Palestinian people should regain their legitimate rights and that the PLO should attend the international conference in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

He added that his majesty the king's meetings with the Arab leaders focused on supporting the kinfolk's uprising in the occupied territories, the Iraq-Iran war, bilateral relations, and the need to develop a unified Arab stand toward the summit issues.

AL-DUSTUR has learned that His Majesty King Husayn and 'Arafat will hold other meetings on the sidelines of the summit.

Palestinian Stand at Summit

LD0806122888 Algiers APS in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Algiers, 8 Jun (APS) — A well-informed Palestinian source has told APS that the Palestinian submission at the Arab summit will deal with three main points — political and material support of the uprising, Arab-Palestinian relations, and the question of the international conference on the Middle East.

Concerning the first point, the source said political support for the uprising must be in the form of a collective Arab effort on regional and international levels through the ministerial committee set up by the Arab League Ministerial Council to pool international pressure on the Zionist enemy to stop its policy of oppression and terror and to implement the Geneva agreements of 1949 on protection of the civilian population in time of war.

The submission will also demand that the international community and particularly the Security Council shoulder its responsibilities in imposing respect for the resolutions and for international laws which are being violated by the Zionist entity, stopping the policy of expulsion, and ensuring the release of detainees.

The paper proposes the provision of material support to the uprising to enable the Palestinian people to continue their struggle against the Zionist enemy.

Concerning Arab-Palestinian relations, the paper will demand adherence to the resolutions of previous Arab summits and particularly those relating to recognition of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The submission will also demand respect for Palestinian legitimacy and the independence of the Palestinian decision. Within the same point the paper will demand respect for the right of the Palestinian people to be in Lebanon (? to ensure) the security of their camps, and their right to armed struggle together with the Lebanese people against the Zionist enemy.

Concerning the international conference, the paper stresses the need to adopt an Arab stand in favor of an international conference on peace in the Middle East with full competence to consecrate the right of the Palestinian people to return, to self-determination, and to set up an independent national state under the leadership of the PLO.

The paper will also demand the agreement of Arab countries on the participation of the PLO, as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in that international conference alongside all parties concerned in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the permanent members of the Security Council, or on the PLO's participation within a joint Arab delegation.

Husayn Addresses Summit

JN0806134088 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Jun 88

["Full text" of speech by King Husayn at the "first working session" of the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers on 8 June—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr President, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses: We meet today in an extraordinary summit in Algiers as we did 7 months ago in Amman. From a logical as well as a realistic point of view, this Arab meeting at summit level—following so shortly the previous summit — must have been necessitated by a momentous event. This has indeed been the case, and the event continues. It is no less than the uprising by the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Palestinian territories against Israeli occupation.

It is in fact more than that—a revolution erupting on Palestinian soil after more than 20 years of occupation. I say revolution not only as measured by the violence it has spawned, or the sacrifices endured by the Palestinian people, or the oppression and savagery exercised by the occupier but also as an expression of the unanimous determination of the Palestinian Arab people to reject Israeli occupation in every shape and form, and their persistence in resisting the occupiers and their designs until they achieve their objectives of terminating the occupation and exercising their legitimate national rights, regardless of cost or sacrifice.

It is a revolution also because it has entirely demolished the myth entertained by Israel that the Palestinian Arab people have resigned themselves to coexisting with Israel despite its having been a colonialist occupying power for the 20 years preceding the uprising. This, then, is the momentous event which has prompted our meeting at the summit level. However, it cannot be separated from Arab reality. Twenty-one years of occupation cannot be explained in isolation from this reality. The Palestinian uprising—after more than 20 years of occupation —cannot be understood or properly supported except within the context of Arab reality and the need to develop this reality to the level dictated by the event of the uprising itself.

If our meeting may be characterized as extraordinary, the event which has prompted it is not. For the Palestinian uprising is as much a result of the interaction of Arab and international forces and circumstances as it is a consequence of the suffering of the Palestinian Arabs over a period of four decades. I say this to make sure that the character of the meeting does not overshadow the event and we do not deal with it as if it were itself extraordinary or unexpected. Emergencies are usually dealt with in a hasty manner prompted by reaction rather than a rational planned action. What we have before us is a historic event. It represents the apex of the Palestinian question since 1948. It is a clear expression of the dialectical relationship between, on the one hand, colonialism which survives against the tide of history and is represented by Zionism through its refusal to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and, on the other hand, the struggle for freedom and self-determination which is in harmony with the march of history and is embodied in the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian Arabs against the colonialist occupier.

As I have said , this revolution cannot be viewed or comprehended in isolation either from Arab reality or from internal and external challenges. In line with this view, the text of the invitation extended by His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid has the quality of precision and depth in that it makes a clear link between the uprising of the Palestinian people and the challenges facing the Arab nation. Thus, brothers, this meeting will again address the Palestinian cause as the first Arab cause and the Arab reality as the first and most important framework of this cause.

Your Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, only 7 months separate the extraordinary summits of Amman and Algiers. During this brief period, there have been some new developments, while other situations have remained unchanged. Whereas the Amman summit focused its attention on Arab reality for the purpose of closing ranks and establishing reconciliation among the members of the Arab family—as an essential requisite for facing external challenges seriously and effectively—the Algiers summit convenes in order to deal with these challenges directly. Foremost among them is the Zionist challenge to the Arab nation in general and to the Palestinian Arabs in particular. As we survey important Arab issues, it may be useful to review the salient features of this brief period between the two summits:

1. Iran has rejected the collective Arab call emanating from the Amman summit for an end to her war with our sister state of Iraq—a call aimed at preventing further bloodshed and conserving Arab and Islamic resources. It has continued to cling to its rejection of a peaceful settleemnt by refusing to accept Security Council Resolution No 598.

2. In line with this intransigent stand, Iran has continued to escalate tension in the Gulf, whether through threats to international shipping or through attempts at blackmail or aggression against some Arab states in the Gulf.

3. Internal disarray in Lebanon has continued.

4. Israel has continued to reject the call for an international conference for peace in the Middle East and has persisted in implementing its oppressive and expansionist policy in the occupied Arab territories.

5. Israel has clung to its aggressive and terrorist policies by attacking Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, bombing Lebanese cities and villages, and assassinating the deputy commander-in-chief of the Palestinian forces in Tunis.

On the other hand, there have been promising developments here and there which have reinforced confidence in our nation's future as well as in the ability of the Arab order to stand firm in the face of challenges and intrigues posed by the forces of evil and aggression. These positive developments have grown out of a number of undertakings and initiatives as follows:

1. There has been a growing movement towards reconciliation and consensus within the Arab family and a corresponding reduction in the intensity and volume of disagreement among its various members.

2. The sister Kingdom of Saudi Araba has been successful in foiling Iran's attempts at using religion and the Hajj as a means of extortion and has responded to these attempts by severing diplomatic relations with Iran.

3. The sister state of Kuwait has stood firm in the face of those serving Iranian terrorism and has refused to meet the demands of the hijackers of the Kuwaiti airliner "Al-Jabiriyah."

4. The brave Army of Iraq has succeeded in liberating the Iraqi Al-Faw Peninsula and Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh] area from their Iranian occupiers.

5. There has been the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people against Zionist designs and their revolution against the Israeli forces of occupation.

These are the salient features of Arab reality against the background of external challenges facing our nation. As you can see, they are an interlocking whole. None can be perceived or resolved in isolation from the others.

Seen from this perspective, the revolution of the Palestinian people against Israeli occupation is complementary to Iraq's brave resistance to Iranian aggression. Jordan and Syria—placed as they are in direct confrontation with Israeli expansionism—complement the Arab states of the Gulf which are themselves in a position of direct confrontation with Iranian attempts at hegemony. Viewed from a wider perspective, most Arab states in Asia are experiencing tension as well as attrition, either because they are in an actual state of war or because they live in direct confrontation with external threats.

There can be no doubt that tension and attrition in Arab Asia have a negative effect in one form or another on the rest of the Arab family in Arab Africa. Because this region of tension and war embraces the oil states of the Gulf and the strategic countries of the eastern Mediterranean, it is only natural for the problems of the region to become an international concern, owing to their immediate impact on the interests of the industrial countries of the north, particularly the two superpowers. Perhaps the most important reflection of this is that every single problem in Arab Asia has taken on an international character by acquiring a share of Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 425, 598, and 605, and others continue to loom large in international circles and in consultations, contacts, and discussions among the parties to the various conflicts and the various countries of the world. It is likewise natural for our regional problems, because of their international dimension, to become entangled with issues in other regions. This is no longer a question of interpretation. It is all too evident in negotiations conducted in the climate of growing detente between the two superpowers.

The background against which our problems are perceived necessitates a realistic and comprehensive assessment if we are to arrive at sound conclusions and decisions. Because the Palestinian uprising is the major concern of our present meeting, and because it is the clearest manifestation to date of the progress of the Palestinian issue, I hope you will permit me to analyze it with the realism and comprehensiveness it deserves, in the hope of making a contribution to your praiseworthy efforts to support the Palestinian uprising as it seeks to achieve its legitimate objectives.

Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, as I stated earlier, the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people is not an extraordinary or newly urgent event. It is rather the most recent glaring landmark in the succession of events that have constituted the Palestinian problem throughout more than 70 years and led it to where it now stands. Having been associated with it for the second half of this course of events—for a period of 36 years—I feel compelled to survey, however briefly, the development of the Jordanian dimension of the Palestinian issue emphasizing the period since the June war of 1967. As you well know, the Jordanian dimension did not start with that war. It commenced with the first instigation by Zionism of the Palestine conflict through the ill-omened Balfour Declaration.

As far as my own family was concerned, our involvement began when my great grandfather Husayn ibn 'Ali stood up to Great Britain at that time in defense of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and of the rights of Arabs in Palestine. He paid dearly for it, suffering exile and alienation, only alleviated by his will to be buried in the vicinity of Al-Aqsa Mosque. This involvement was renewed when my grandfather the late King 'Abdallah succeeded, through his own tenacity and perseverance, to exclude Jordan from the Balfour Declaration.

Since its establishment as a state in 1921, Jordan has been closely associated with the development of the Palestinian issue. It has interacted with it and has been affected by it. The link with Palestine was further strengthened by the union between Jordan and the West Bank in April 1950. In this context, the association falls into two periods: pre-1967 and post-1967. With regard to the first, a great deal has been written about that relationship. A large body of literature has grown on Palestinian political history, some of it seeking the truth, some highly selective, and some a forgery of history. Brothers, nothing is more detrimental to individuals, or more misleading to peoples, than a selective and out-of-context interpretation of historical events. This is, regrettably, what has been done since the June war. Following her occupation of the West Bank in 1967, Israel began to refer to the union of the two banks in 1950 as one act of annexation by Jordan of the West Bank. The Israeli purpose behind this cannot be hidden. Israel wished to imply that as long as Jordan had annexed the West Bank at a certain point, why shouldn't Israel do the same?

Wittingly or otherwise, a number of Arab writers have played the Israeli tune. By describing a historical national event as annexation, and by repeating it often enough they have entrenched this concept of the union in the minds of many Palestinians, Arabs, and others in the outside world. So much so that some have hesitatingly been referring to the period of union of the two banks preceding the Israeli occupation of the West Bank as a period of Jordanian occupation following on the heels of the British occupation of Palestine, which was itself preceded by Turkish occupation. How young people are aware that it was an elected parliament equally representing the East and West Banks which decided to unite the two banks in April 1950? How many have read the resolution to that effect? How many are familiar with the text of the second paragraph which states that all Arab rights in Palestine be protected and that those rights be defended by all legitimate means to the fullest extent, without prejudice to the final settlement of its just cause within the framework of national aspirations, Arab cooperation, and international justice?

How many in the young generation of Palestinians or Arabs know that the Palestinian body politic under the mandate was divided on the future of Palestine into two main groups, one looking for union with Jordan out of loyalty to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt consecrating union which was a living force in their hearts, and another looking for independence within a Palestinian state? How many are aware that the decision of the Palestinian people to unite with Jordan was a victory for the idea of Arab unity prevalent at that time? How many realize that the Jordanian Arab Legion managed to rescue the greater portion of what remained of Palestine, including Arab Jerusalem in the 1948 war? How many in the young generation realize that national identity and not state identity was the prevalent notion in the forties and fifties and that it constituted the essence of prevalent Arab political thought then? How many know that it was the representatives of the Palestinian people at that time who initiated the demand for union?

I say this in order to dring home to the youth of today that state affiliation is a newly emergent phenomenon which is younger in age than many of them. I say this also so that they may not read previous events through the eyes of the present and out of their historical context. Again, I say this so that future generations may be left with some sense of compassion and renewed unity, for nothing lasts forever except God and the people. If today the prevailing thinking tends towards allegiance to the state, with a state identity occupying a dearer place in their hearts, they should at least not be hard on their forebears and ours. They should refrain from passing unjust judgments on both our fathers and grandfathers and theirs. They should also refrain from reaching conclusions that contradict the facts and harm the great national values that we hold and continue to live for, without which the foundations of the nation's vitality and survival will—God forbid—begin to crumble.

The period of union between the two banks preceding June 1967 was a living model of a larger union to which all the Arabs aspired at that time. It was not a Jordanian occupation of Palestine. If it is the wish of the Palestinian people's representatives to separate from Jordan at present, we will then bless and respect their will, just as we respected the desire of the Palestinan people's representatives to unite with Jordan in 1950. But this legitimate wish should not distort the experience of union between the two banks, prior to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, because Arab unity is not a monopoly by Jordanians and Palestinians alone but an Arab hope harboured by the Arab conscience in all parts of the Arab world. No one has the right to undermine this hope by portraying the unity between the two banks as a form of hegemony by one Arab country over another that was accomplished through forced annexation and motivated by greed and profit.

The second period of Jordanian-Palestinian association was the one following the June war of 1967, entered by Jordan with no hesitation and under a joint Arab command, out of a belief in the unity of Arab goals and destiny and commitment to the Joint Arab Defense Pact and the Arab League Charter. As is well-known, the war led to the occupation of Arab territories by Israel, including the West Bank of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Since that time this period of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship has been guided by a constant two-pronged policy:

1. Support for the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank through the official institutions of the Jordanian state and to the extent permitted by the conditions of occupation.

2. Striving within the Arab context to terminate the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories through seeking a peaceful, comprehensive and just settlement based on international legitimacy that has been embodied in a number of the principles enshrined in UN Security Council Resolution 242, particularly.

— The inadmissibility of the acquisition of the territory of others by war. — The call on Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories in return for the establishment of a permanent, just and comprehensive peace.

I would like to state at this point that when we, together with our brethren in the Arab Republic of Egypt, accepted Resolution 242, we did so on the basis of an American commitment to its implementation in a timeframe not exceeding 6 months.

Since that time, the Arab-Israeli conflict has been an international issue dealt with at the Arab level on that basis. Jordan's political interaction with the issue has gone through two phases:

1. A phase of direct contact with the United Nations, during which, in coordination with the Arab Republic of Egypt, we held extensive talks with the UN Secretary General's Representative Ambassador Gunnar Yarring on the implementation of Resolution 242. Through these discussions, the real intentions of Israel's aggression of June 1967 began to become evident. Whilst Israel was making the claim before the world that it had waged war

and occupied the Arab teritories for the purpose of bartering these territories for the legitimacy of its own existence and living in peace within its borders, it became evident to us that its real aim was to expand at the expense of the Arabs. This explains its policy of procrastination when dealing with the UN special envoy. Nonetheless, we continued with our political efforts to expose the Israeli intentions. We strengthened our resolve to look at any initiative or endeavor which might lead to an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, on the grounds that territory was paramount and that the restoration of the territories should be the first priority of political action.

2. In 1970, the United States launched a political initiative which came to be known as the Rogers Plan. This occurred during the war of attrition. In coordination with the Arab Republic of Egypt we accepted the Rogers initiative, whereas Israel turned it down, confirming once again its intention of holding on to the territories.

3. In 1973, the sister states of Egypt and Syria launched the October war of liberation. The war led to Security Council Resolution 338 which reaffirmed Resolution 242 and called for its implementation through an appropriate conference to be held for this purpose. An international conference for peace was held in Geneva in Decemeber 1973. Jordan participated in the conference, whose only outcome was that the United States took the initiative to achieve a disengagement of forces on the Israeli-Egyptian and Israeli-Syrian fronts and this was carried through. On our part in Jordan, we requested that the United States bring about a similar disengagement of forces on the Jordanian front. Israel rejected this.

4. In 1977, the American-Soviet statement was issued relating to a peaceful settlement based on international legitimacy. It was a balanced statement which we appreciated and supported. But the United States soon retreated from that position in deference to the wishes of Israel, which had rejected the statement.

5. The Camp David accords were signed in 1978. We rejected them becausae they were not committed to a comprehensive settlement and because they dealt with the Palestinian aspect of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of establishing an autonomy for the Palestinians that does not give them their natural legitimate right of sovereignty on their soil.

6. In September 1982, following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, U.S. President Ronald Reagan launched a new peace initiative in which we found some positive aspects emphasizing the right of the Palestinians to sovereignty over their land purusant to Israel's withdrawal. We tried to open a dialogue with the U.S. Administration aiming at developing President Reagan's initiative. But Israel rejected it for the same reason that prompted us to accept it. The Israeli position led the United States to retract its stand and to freeze its initiative.

7. During the same period, the Arab Fes summit adopted the Arab peace plan which, among other things, called for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and compensation for Palestinians who do not wish to return. A seven-member committee was formed and was entrusted with the task of explaining this plan to the permanent members of the Security Council. I had the honor to head this committee in visiting various capitals. 8. There followed a period of inaction lasting several months. We found ourselves at an impasse resulting from a lack of response by the United States to the Arab peace plan. We then embarked on a comprehensive and thorough analysis of the situation. As a result, it became apparent to us that the U.S. political posture towards the Palestinian cause stems from two considerations:-

a. The United States does not support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, at a time when the other permanent members of the Security Council call for the granting of the right of self-determination to the Palestinian people.

b. Rejection by the United States to deal with the PLO in any peace process unless it accepted Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, at a time when we consider participation by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, a basic principle. For the required peace no longer merely meant the withdrawal by Israel from the occupied Arab territories but a resolution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects, including the exercise by the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination. It is worth mentioning here that the Soviet Union as well as the other permanent members of the Security Council have all come to recognize the need for all parties to the conflict to accept the two Security Council resolutions in order to participate in the international conference.

We then conducted an intensive dialogue with the leadership of the PLO and arrived at the accord of February 1985.

After having achieved a good measure of coordination and cooperation, differences arose between us and the PLO leadership on the interpretation of the priorities of joint Jordanian-Palestinian action, putting a stop to the process.

9. In the face of these developments, we took the initiative to revive the idea of convening an international conference as called for by the Soviet Union in 1981. This approach met with enthusiastic support from various countries and groupings of the world, with the exception of the United States and Israel.

10. Last November, the extraordinary Arab summit met in Amman. We adopted a unanimous resolution at that summit which stated that: The convocation of an international conference for peace in the Middle East, under the sponsorship of the United Nations, at the invitation of the United Nations secretary general and with the participation of the five permanent member states of the Security Council,

together with all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing, is the suitable means for a peaceful, comprehensive and just settlement which would ensure the recovery of the occupied Arab territories, the resolution of the Palestinian issue in all its aspects and the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

11. Last December, the Palestinian Arab people rose in a widespread uprising involving people of all ages and men and women of all persuasions. It became a genuine popular revolt against the colonial occupier. It took the Zionist enemy by surprise, causing confusion and bringing about a realization for the first time after 20 years of occupation that the continuation of the occupation had a heavy financial, moral and political price. It drove the enemy to expose its real terrorist face and disregard for human rights. It perturbed Jewish groups around the world, particularly in the United States, which has launched a new peace initiative under the name of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Once again, we agreed to engage in a dialogue with Mr Shultz over his initiative, in coordination with the Arab brethren concerned, particularly Syria. Our interaction with the new initiative was based on a set of principles which we enclosed in a memorandum handed to Mr Shultz. The memorandum also set forth our understanding of the initiative in the light of our contacts and discussions with the American side. These principles are:

1. The inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war. Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories is the basis of the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the establishment of a just and durable peace.

2. The settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict requires the settlement of the Palestine question in all its aspects, including the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. 3. The settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine question must be a comprehensive settlement. Negotiations to arrive at a comprehensive settlement can only take place within the international conference.

4. The international conference will not merely be a ceremonial international gathering for the sole purpose of launching direct negotiations. It should reflect the moral and constant weight of the five permanent members of the Security Council in helping the parties to the conflict arrive at a comprehensive, just and lasting peace.

5. The principles of Security Council Resolution 242 apply to all the occupied territories and are the basis for negotiations in the bilateral committees. They, as principles, are not negotiable in the committees.

6. As an independent sovereign state, Jordan is prepared to attend the international conference with the other involved parties. Jordan will not represent the Palestinian people at the conference nor will it negotiate the settlement of the Palestinian problem on behalf of the PLO. Jordan is also prepared to attend the conference in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation if the concerned parties accept this arrangement.

As for our understanding of the American initiative as presented by the American secretary of state, we have summarized it as follows:

1. The international conference shall be convened to attain a comprehensive peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and to settle the Palestinian problem in all its aspects and to guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

2. The UN secretary general shall issue invitations to all the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO as well as the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to participate in the conference. The PLO will be invited to the conference since the Palestinian people must be active participants in the negotiations to determine their future.

3. The international conference, in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, requires the participation of the United States and the Soviet Union.

4. The international conference will have a continuing role.

5. Final status negotiations over the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights will be based on all the provisions and principles of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242. Thus all the provisions and principles of Security Council Resolution 242 apply to all the occupied territories in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

6. Any transitional arrangements are a step towards the final status, and are not a separate or interim one. Since transitional arrangements directly affect the final settlement, they apply to all the lands and resources of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. They also apply to all Palestinian people in the occupied territories including the Palestinians in Arab Jerusalem.

These are the principles to which we have affirmed our commitment as we deal with the initiative. They clearly indicate our reservations with regard to a number of points contained in it. In any case, the Shultz initiative, despite its rejection by the Israeli government, continues to be the subject of a dialogue between the United States, the Soviet Union and the involved Arab states with a view to developing it so as to conform with the bases of the Arab position.

Your Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, this, then, is the second phase of the relationship of Jordan with the Palestinian issue. It is characterized by a Jordanian policy of supporting steadfastness and political action in order to recover the occupied territories. Because of this active inter-relationship, certain sensivities have appeared between us and our brethren in the PLO. They may have been prompted by suspicions that our actions have a desire for gains translated into hegemony over the West Bank after liberation. In our dealings with each other, we came to be seen as competing rather than cooperating. They misunderstood our adherence to Security Council Resolution 242 which affirms the principles of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war and calls for the withdrawal from the occupied territories. This has strengthened their emphasis on moving twoards a separation from us.

We have even heard, lately and during the uprising, certain voices characterize our continued support for our brethren in the occupied Palestinian territories through Jordanian institutions as an attempt by Jordan to exercise hegemony over Palestinian land and to byapss the PLO. These voices forget that Jordan's persistence in dealing with its brethren on the Palestinian land is not only emanating from its pan-Arab commitment, but also from Jordan's honouring of the call of Arab leaders at the 1974 Rabat summit to continue our support in order to facilitate daily life and to strengthen their steadfastness. In any case, we are prepared to honour whatever you see fit.

Some may ask why we persist. Why should we deal with initiatives, receive delegations, conduct dialogues, draw up development plans for the occupied territories, and preserve the constitutional frameworks which reflect the union of the two banks? Why should we preserve the legality of our institutions in the West Bank? Why all this? Why do we not satisfy ourselves with a declaration of support for the PLO and its positions, since our efforts are construed as competition and bring upon ourselves misunderstandings and lack of confidence, with all the troubles and burdens they entail and which we could well do without? Indeed we have heard such questions within our country just as we have heard them from some of our Arab brethren.

Our answer is that Jordan's relationship with Palestine and its people is not merely one of a national commitment which we share with all our Arab bretheren. It is a special and distinctive relationship, though not one that we specially and distinctly sought or invented. It is the outcome of the interaction of purely objective factors of geographical contiguity, demographic mix, cultual interaction, complementarity, and common historical experience. We would have wished to be in a position that enabled us to meet our national commitment towards Palestine whilst sparing us at the same time the troubles and suspicions because Jordan has no ambition in any part of the land of Palestine.

It is a truly sad irony that Israel recognizes this distinctive relationship and draws up its expansionist policy on the basis of solving the Palestine question either in or through Jordan, at the expense of both Jordan and Palestine. This, Jordan naturally rejects with full force and determination at a time when some brethren view this distinctive relationship as a cause for suspicion and competition rather than an instrument of confidence and cooperation. In any case, we will have to remind all our Arab brethren that Jordan's involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict does not lie only in the occupied West Bank but is dictated by the fact that we sit astride the longest lines of confrontation with Israel. Indeed, Jordan's borders with Israel are much longer than its borders with the West Bank.

We were aware, at quite an early stage of the sensitivities of our PLO brethren and their view of us as competitors. So 2 years before the Rabat conference—in March 1972, to be specific—I personally took the initiative of presenting a plan that included possible choices for the future of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship after the liberation of the occupied territories. The plan was based on Jordan's faith in and support for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. Although the proposal came to be known as the United Arab Kingdom, it constituted only one of the three options envisaged then. We suggested to the Palestinian brethren the undertaking of a rferendum under international austpices after the land is liberated to ascertain the type of relationship they want with Jordan in accordance with one of the three following options:

1. Return to a unitary state, as was the case before the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories.

2. Establishment of a federal order under the rubric of the Unitid Arab Kingdom to be composed of two states, Jordan and Palestine, each with its own parliament and state government, with the federal union having a joint federal governemnt and parliament drawn in equal numbers form each state.

3. Establishment of an independent Palestinian state

At the time it seemed that the second option was the most acceptable in that it affirmed the Palestine identity, presesved the complementarity between the two states, and reflected the distinctive relationship between the two peoples. For these considerations, the plan came to carry that name.

Your Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, I am fully aware that I have spoken at some length. My excuse is the confidence I have in your indulgence and in your desire to arrive at sound conclusions and decisions on an issue which we all agree is central to Arab concerns. Since we are meeting here in the first place to discuss the Palestinian uprising, the most recent serious expression of the struggle of the Palestinian people, we have to talk frankly and in a comprehensive manner so that we may not lose a valuable opportunity to support the Palestinian brethern in their struggle for freedom. God is my witness. I do not intend in my talk to lay blame, but to be as specific as possible so that the situation can be understood more clearly, making some contribution to the task of achieving the results for which the Arab Palestinian people have always yearned and which have been sought by our nation across the great Arab homeland. Turning back to the uprising, I wish to emphasize that we will not help it attain its objectives by merely singing its praises. Rather, it should be utilized as a point of pressure within unified Arab political action. Proper support should be achieved at three levels:

1. The political level:

Here I would like to place before my brethren the outcome of Jordan's experience with the United States over the past 2 years. This experience is summed up in the fact that the United States adopts no foreign policy in the Middle East other than support for Israel. Its behavior toward the Arab-Israeli conflict is, unfortunately, based on a policy of crisis-management. The United States does not embark on any political move or peace initiative except after the eruption of the situation in the region in the form of wars. The U.S. move to secure the adoption of Security Council Resolution 242 came in the wake of the June war. The Rogers Plan was launched in the midst of the war of attrition. The U.S. agreement to convene the Geneva Conference and Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy thereafter, resulted from the October war. Likewise, President Reagan's initiative came after Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the same way as the Shultz peace initiative followed the eruption of the popular Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Each initiative ended with the passing of each crisis.

These facts lead us to two conclusions:

a. The United States places the uprising at the level of a Palestinian war against Israel. It is on this basis that it has launched a new peace initiative.

b. As the momentum of American action usually ends with the passing of the crisis, we should support the uprising in an organized and effective manner and ensure that it continues until it achieves its objective.

For our part, we will continue to adhere to the six principles we have announced and handed to Mr Shultz. We look forward to the emergence of a unified Arab stand which can support the uprising through internationally acceptable political action in order to win the world over to our side and so that the Palestinian people may feel that their legitimate struggle will lead, God willing, to success and victory.

In our view, political action emanating from the principles affirmed by the various Arab summits could be based on two principles:

a. Adherence to the convening of an effective international conference for peace in the Middle East with the participation of the permanent members of the security council and all the parties to the conflict, including the PLO the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing for the purpose of achieving a peaceful, comprehensive and just settlement which would secure the recovery of the occupied Arab territories, the solution of the Palestinian issue in all its aspects, and the restoration of the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination.

b. Adherence to PLO participation in the international conference without tying our hands with regard to details of the manner of participation, although, in the first place, we would welcome PLO participation through an independent delegation if possible, or in a joint Arab delegation if possible, or under any other arrangement that would facilitate the covnening of the conference.

However, if my brother Arab leaders, together with the PLO, find it necessary and useful to agree to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state as a precondition to the convening of an international conference and to insist on the participation by the PLO in a separate delegation, even if this does not lead to the convening of the conference, we shall not differ with them on that. In all circumstances, we stand ready to agree to whatever the brother Arab leaders unanimously adopt. As I said before, we have no designs, ambitions, or goals other than the liberation of the Palestinian territories and enabling the Palestinian people to determine their own destiny on their national soil and regain their legitimate national rights.

2. The financial level

To continue to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories is a support of the uprising. As for assistance to our people there who have suffered from Israel's oppressive and punitive measures, it is an insistent need which should continue to be met through securing its delivery to those who are entitled to it. In our view, the important thing is that this support should reach the Palestinian people and their institutions. By this I do not mean that we should be the sole conduit for support. What I do mean is that this assistance should be delivered, whether it be through international organizations, through us, through the PLO, or through any other party. Delivery of financial assistance will strengthen the ability of the uprising to continue. The continuance of the uprising will mean continued pressure on Israel and a concomitant rise in international concern, particularly in the United States, for working towards the achievement of a peaceful, comprehensive, and just settlement based on international legality.

For our part in Jordan, since the uprising began, we have taken the initiative in setting up government and popular committees to organize the collection of contributions and their delivery to those who have incurred damage. We have maintained our support for the steadfastness of our brethren under occupation, whether by continuing to pay the salaries of employees working in the various official institutions existing before the 1967 war, or through facilitating the entry of external support payments, or through the opening up of the Jordanian market to all industrial and agricultural goods produced in the occupied territories. We have also provided emergency assistance in the form of the settlement of outstanding water bills of some refugee camps in the West Bank, extending financial support to Palestinian students enrolled in Jordanian universities, and allocating permanent salaries to the families of Palestinian martyrs.

It may be useful to recall, together with my fellow leaders, that in practical terms the union of the two banks continued after the occupation. Jordanian law is still applied in the West Bank. Jordanian currency is still the main currency in circulation as well as for savings. State and popular institutions still exist and function in the areas of education, health, agriculture, passports, public works, water irrigation, awqaf, religious courts and social development, in addition to municipalities, unions, cooperative and charitable societies, and clubs. Approximately 18,000 employees continue to receive their salaries from the Jordanian Government treasury, including striking lawyers, in addition to salaries for 6,000 employees in the Gaza Strip. Likewise, Jordan continues to be the main external market for commodities from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

We have maintained all of this to the greatest extent permitted by our financial resources and the conditions of occupation. We had no motive in doing so but to support the steadfastness of our people there and enable them to fulfill their historic responsibility of foiling the expansionist designs of the occupying authorities by holding on to their land, the land of their ancestors, and confronting and resisting the forces of occupation.

3. The moral level

As it is obvious to you, moral support for the uprising is contingent in the first place on success achieved at the political and financial levels. This should be followed by an organized information campaign aimed at our people resisting occupation and the world community with special emphasis on the United States which is Israel's main benefactor. Israel should be exposed for thwarting and obstructing all peace efforts, for its policy of colonizing Arab lands in an era of decolonization, for her violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories as well as for her terrorism inside and outside these territories. These policies should be exposed so that the uprising wins firm international support as it seeks to achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate goals of freedom, dignity, and self-determination.

Your Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, whatever decisions we are about to take in support of the Palestinian uprising, and regardless of any other consideration, we in Jordan shall continue to fulfill our national responsibility of supporting the uprising and its resistance to occupation. Nevertheless, I am duty bound to emphasise to my brethren here at this historic gathering that support for the Palestinian uprising of necessity requires support for the PLO and the confrontation states. Today Jordan and Syria are the target of Israel's expansionist designs more than ever before, now that the uprising has jolted Israel's awareness of its demographic crisis out of the sphere of speculation and into the realm of reality. If only for this reason, we in Jordan and Syria are in need of sustained support to be able to withstand the aggressive and expansionist Zionist designs as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict continues.

The Baghdad summit's financial commitments to the confrontation states and the PLO have reached the 10th and final year. Yet, half of these obligated sums have not reached us. As a result, we have incurred large debts and obligations, which have negatively affected our economies as well as our armament procurement programs. I am beginning to entertain the daunting prospect that our burden will soon become too heavy because we shoulder our national responsibilities in the face of Israel's expansionist designs—at a time when Israel continues to receive unlimited military and financial assistance from the United States and at an unprecedented level of generosity. It is the same Israel that regards Syria as a threat to her and views Jordan as an obstacle to its plans to resolve the Palestinian problem outside of Palestinian territory.

Permit me, therefore, to issue a call to the brethren concerned with this matter, in a spirit of frankness, affection, and responsibility, to honour their past commitments and to discuss continued future financial support which should be sustained until the reason for such support has ceased to exist.

As for the Iraq-Iran war, 7 months have passed since our Arab nation collectively addressed Iran and appealed to it to accept an end to the war in order to stop the bloodshed and preserve Arab and Islamic resources. During this period, the Iranian Government has, regrettably, continued to declare its insistence on continuing the war against fraternal Iraq, to reject UN Security Council Resolution No 598, and continually to issue threats and provocations against the Gulf states, particularly fraternal Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. In light of all this, as an affirmation of Arab solidarity, and in harmony with the spirit in which this conference is being held, it has become necessary to reconsider Arab relations with Iran in a way that would make it clearly realize the seriousness of the Arab rejection of attempts at expansion and hegemony and its insistence on continuing the war.

Your Excellency, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, in conclusion, I pray that the Almighty blesses our efforts, guides us in a manner pleasing to Him, and helps us serve our nation's aspiration for its common good. I thank you for your indulgence and attention.

Peace be upon you and God's mercy and His blessings.

Husayn To Visit Egypt

JN0806154588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1510 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (INA)—King Husayn of Jordan will pay a short visit to Egypt following the conclusion of the extraordinary Arab summit conference currently being held in Algiers.

Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources told an INA correspondent that the Jordanian monarch will hold talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on the developments of the current Arab situation and the results of the Arab summit conference.

Jordanian on Stand on PLO

JN0806164888 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 7 Jun 88 pp 1, 21

[Text] Algiers—A ranking Jordanian official has stated that Jordan is eager to explain to the Algiers summit confirmation that it is not directly involved in the Palestinian cause, to avoid any susceptibility to the PLO, and that Jordan does not wish to assume any special responsibilities or shoulder specific burdens concerning the Palestinian cause. He added that Jordan will also stress that the 1974 Rabat summit resolutions which stipulated that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative should be now translated into fact, and that the PLO must assume responsibility for the Palestinian cause. The official also said that Jordan's role in this respect should be like all the other Arab parties, which assume the responsibility of assisting and supporting the PLO in carrying out its role. The Jordanian official said that for its part, Jordan will commit itself to the implementation of what the PLO wants and that the PLO should make the decision and shoulder the responsibility.

The Jordanian official explained that Jordan will submit a written working paper to the Algiers summit on the stand toward Palestinian representation, and that this paper will be mroe explicit than what King Husayn recently stated about the relationship with the PLO and responsibility toward the Palestinian cause. Jordan will ask the summit to adopt a resolution that the PLO should participate in the international conference with an independent delegation. Jordan will also propose the establishment of an independent state. The Jordanian official added that Jordan, for its part, refuses to represent the PLO partially or completely, even if the PLO so wishes or the Arabs so wish. The official said that Jordan also rejects the principle of deputization. He added that Jordan's participation in the international conference would be to facilitate the convocation of this conference, to assist the PLO, and to solve some of the problems related to international law.

On reports that the Jordanian House of Representatives will be dissolved and that the development plan for the occupied territories will be suspended, particularly the support funds and salaries of employees who are working in all sectors and the banking facilities which facilitate the transfer of these funds, the Jordanian official said that Jordan is ready to discuss any point. He added: If there is any measure which the PLO believes harms its representation of the Palestinian people, Jordan will willingly act on this measure. Jordan is ready to adopt any measure and to reorganize bridge crossing operations, from the West Bank to the East Bank, as international crossing points, if the PLO so wishes.

In any case, Jordan will ask the PLO and the summit to have the PLO assume all the responsibilities, on the condition that this does not have negative effects on the people. The Jordanian official said: To prove its good intentions, Jordan will let the PLO and the summit decide on the method for transferring these responsibilities, in one move or gradually. However, Jordan insists on eliminating any factors of friction between it and the PLO and that Jordan, like any other Arab country, will assume a role of support for the Palestinian cause.

Al-Qasim on Palestinians

JN0806171388 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, has stated that when Jordan calls for an international conference, it wants to support the other Arab parties in regaining the Palestinian people's national rights. These rights are based on firm constants: Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

In an interview with the radio team in Algiers, Al-Qasim said that Jordan gives priority to the convocation of an international conference. The convocation of this conference primarily requires the reaffirmation of the resolutions on the concept of withdrawal from the occupied territories and on the attainment of the Palestinian people's national rights. He said: This is the basis with respect to the question of holding an international conference.

He added: If the PLO succeeds in attending the international conference with an independent delegation that will bring about the expected results, then Jordan supports them and blesses their endeavors. If there is an Arab proposal that the delegation will be a joint delegation, then Jordan has no objection to this and supports this proposal.

In reply to a question on whether the PLO had asked the summit to discuss the question of independent representation, Al-Qasim said: Jordan will not differ with the PLO on any proposal it wants and that the other Arab countries approve.

In reply to another question, Al-Qasim said: What is important is that support reaches the kinfolk in the occupied territories, irrespective of the channels used for that purpose.

On Egypt's return to the Arab League, Marwan al-Qasim said: Jordan's stand on this issue has been clear since the Amman summit. If this issue is submitted for discussion, then Jordan will continue to adopt the stand it had adopted in the Amman summit. He pointed out that the consultations and meetings which have been held between His Majesty King Husayn and the other Arab leaders during the summit demonstrates the importance of coordination between Jordan and the Arab countries.

Cabinet Reshuffle Possible

JN0806175988 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 7 Jun 88 p 19

['Amid al-Shanti dispatch from Algiers]

[Excerpt] Algiers—The Arab kings and presidents began to arrive here to participate in the extraordinary Arab summit, which is considered one of the most important Arab summits regarding the Palestine question.

Palestinian sources have informed AL-QABAS here in Algiers that the Palestinian working paper to be submitted to the summit contains a new paragraph that reiterates that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO will ask the summiteers to add to the representation formula that the PLO represents the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories. This is the first time since the Rabat summit of 1974 that the PLO has voiced such a demand. The Palestinian paper also calls for the reiteration of the resolutions adopted at previous summits, especially the Rabat and Fes summits. The Palestinian paper will also call for the formation of a joint and unified Arab delegation to the international conference and will demand that a large and effective role be given to the Palestinian delegation. The Palestinian paper will also call for providing material and moral support for the Palestinian uprising, which is being staged in the occupied territories. It will also call for the provision of support for the steadfastness of the Lebanese in their confrontation of Israel, especially in southern Lebanon.

Yasir 'Arafat had received an urgent message from the Soviet leaders in Algiers. Following that, he returned to Tunis. AL-QABAS has learned that the official Palestinian delegation will comprise Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], Faruq Qaddumi, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, and a number of other PLO Executive Committee members.

Highly-placed Jordanian sources in Algiers told AL-QABAS that the Jordanian monarch will put into effect a ministerial reshuffle of the Jordanian cabinet headed by Zayd al-Rifa'i immediately after the conclusion of the summit meetings. The sources added that the prime minister and the cabinet ministers will be named in light of the results of the Algiers Arab summit, in order to know the actual reactions, as well as the Jordanian and Arab stands toward the Palestine question. [sentence as published] The sources went on to say that the Jordanian monarch will restrict the appointment of prime ministers to Jordanians if no Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is secured. [passage omitted]

KUNA Notes Meeting

LD0806184888 Kuwait KUNA in English 1705 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Algiers, June 8 (KUNA)—Arab leaders ended Wednesday afternoon their first closed-door meeting without much information coming out on what was tackled.

During the four-hour long session, King Husayn of Jordan delivered a message in which he touched on several issues topped by the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in Lebanon, informed sources said.

The sources added that the heads of the delegations agreed last night to handle the issues on the agenda on group basis and entrusted the Gulf countries and Iraq with preparing a paper on the Iran-Iraq war, while the PLO was asked to prepare a paper on the uprising and the Palestinian issue.

At a press conference earlier today, PLO chairman's press counselor Bassam Abu Sharif [name as received] said the Palestinian paper presented to the summit was fully accepted by the Jordanian delegation.

He added that the paper calls for supporting the uprising, holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East and recognizing the PLO as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

The paper also demands the respect of the right of the Palestinians to remain in Lebanon, the need for the security of the refugee camps and their right for armed struggle against the Zionist entity, according to the PLO official.

Details of Summit Session

NC0806185388 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Report by correspondent Munir Najjar from Algiers on the Arab summit's closed session held the morning of 8 June—recorded]

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has expressed his fear that the leaders of the uprising will gather in Lebanon by the end of the eighties now that Lebanon has become a center and place of exile for those expelled by Israeli forces. According to Lebanese delegation sources, President Amin al-Jumayyil declared this during the closed morning session when the Arab leaders spoke about the main issues concerning them, foremost of which is the question of the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

King Fahd was the most prominent speaker during the closed morning session. He expressed his hope that the question of the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would be tackled. He was followed by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhhdafi, who demanded that U.S.-Arab relations be discussed. He accused Washington of being behind troubles confronting the Arab states. Al-Qadhdhafi also voiced his opposition to holding a discussion on the question of readmitting Egypt to the Arab League.

Summit chairman President Chadli Bendjedid then spoke. He said the discussion should be confined to the question of the uprising. Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad considered it necessary to unite Arab efforts. He disclosed he is in constant contact with U.S. officials to explain the Arab states' point of view. He said issues other than the uprising should not be discussed.

Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil interjected at this point, declaring that Lebanon has become an extension of the central issue—the Palestinian question and uprising.

He said: The Palestinian leadership gathered in our country in the sixties and seventies. Likewise, we fear that the leadership of the uprising will gather in our country by the end of the eighties now that Lebanon has become a center and a place of exile for those whom the Israeli forces have expelled from the occupied territories. The weakness of Lebanon's central authority makes it easy for Israel to attack Lebanon and to expel the leaders of the uprising to it. Therefore, it would be useful to devote attention to this particular issue, which affects the central issue which in turn affects the situation and conditions in Lebanon, which has suffered enough.

President Amin al-Jumayyil added: I believe the Lebanese issue should be included on this summit's agenda on the basis of these considerations.

Sudanese President Ahmad al-Mirghani spoke next and called for discussing all issues connected with the uprising and the Palestinian question.

King Fahd spoke again. He suggested that the entire Palestinian issue and the Iraq-Iran war be discussed. He said: I do not want to impose myself on his excellency the Lebanese president. I propose that the Lebanese question be discussed. President Amin al-Jummayil interjected again, saying: You are not imposing yourself. You are concerned with the issue as well as we are. Lebanon is a trust in your hands as well.

Morocco's King Hassan II then spoke. He called for a return to the Fes summit's resolutions, describing them as the rescue ship. He proposed that the foreign ministers discuss a new mechanism to implement the Fes resolutions. The Moroccan monarch stressed the need to support the uprising in all circles. King Husayn then called for providing the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza sector with every available support.

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was the last speaker during the morning's closed session. He delivered a long speech in which he discussed the conditions of the uprising and the stages it has passed through. He also spoke about the opening of a new page in relations with Syria. 'Arafat called for discussing the Arab and Palestinian situation as a whole.

Discussing the situation in Lebanon, 'Arafat said: We are pained by the situation in Lebanon, which is the result of the continued occupation of its territory. This has opened a bleeding Lebanese wound. 'Arafat demanded that the conferees work for the unity of Lebanon, its territorial integrity, sovereignty, and stability.

He said: I reiterate that the Palestinian presence in Lebanon is a temporary one, which has been imposed by specific circumstances. Our only demand today is that our camps be protected with the full respect of Lebanese laws.

We point out here that the second closed session has begun on the level of the delegations. Before going to the conference hall, President Amin al-Jumayyil received at his suite conference chairman President Chadli Benjedid, who was accompanied by FLN Secretary General Mohamed Cherif Messadia and Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi. The Algerian president left President al-Jumayyil's suite without making any statements.

Minister Joseph al-Hashim, former Minister Dr Elie Salim, and Brigadier General Muhammad 'Adnan al-Khalil, in addition to President Amin al-Jumayyil, attended the meeting on the Lebanese side.

Klibi Holds News Conference

LD0806192788 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1625 GMT 8 Jun 88

[News conference by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi after the 8 June morning session of the emergency Arab summit in Algiers—recorded]

[Text] [Klibi] Ladies and Gentlemen: First, I would like to thank the representatives of the Arab and international news organizations for their great interest in this extraordinary Arab conference, which is being held by Algeria and from which we expect important results on an issue regarded by our countries as a central one—the Palestine issue.

You attended the opening session yesterday, so there is no need for me to discuss it. The second session was held this morning, beginning at 1130. However, it was preceded by side meetings of some importance. These facilitated the beginning and defining of discussion of issues on the agenda based on the accord reached by the leaders. This accord is seen on the agenda being restricted to one point: the uprising. And the fact is that the conference was convened specifically for this issue.

The leaders will meet again this afternoon at about 1630. But at the same time the foreign ministers will meet to prepare draft resolutions on the uprising in light of the leaders' deliberations this morning, especially in light of the comprehensive report submitted by the leader Abu Ammar, Yasir 'Arafat, and the comments made by a number of other leaders this morning. The rest of the kings' and presidents' comments will come in the second session to be held shortly, in less than an hour.

In light of all these comments, the foreign ministers will prepare the draft resolutions to be submitted to the summit for endorsement.

The heads of state have also agreed that a final communique will be released at the end of the summit. This communique will undoubtedly cover the issue of the uprising, and issues on which consensus was reached at the Amman conference last November, in other words the Iraq-Iran war, the Lebanese problem, and any other proposals that might be submitted to the leaders on the international situation in general.

The leaders have also agreed that this Algiers meeting is an opportunity to exchange views among themselves on all other issues, without committing themselves to making any decision on them. It has been suggested that these deliberations be open to all issues that the leaders want to debate and exchange information over. We believe this is a very good way to reinforce cohesion in joint Arab action as it enables the leaders to express and exchange views on a number of Arab and non-Arab issues that they see as worthy of interest. So, after the session this evening that will resume the debate on the uprising, the leaders will devote a session to exchanging views on all other issues. This morning's meeting was extremely important because it was an open and frank dialogue, but always a cordial and fraternal one between all the leaders. Indeed, after this dialogue, at the end of the session, all of them asked that such summits be convened regularly and that emergency meetings among leaders be held more often to examine the urgent and important issues requiring them to take a stand or exchange views and make an assessment.

As for the upcoming ordinary Arab summit, the Riyadh summit of course, the leaders have agreed to reduce its agenda so that they will discuss a small number of fundamental issues and leave the remainder, which the Arab League Council asked be referred to the summit, to the Arab League Council, and to the foreign ministers to discuss and study as they see fit. Therefore, the leaders have delegated them to decide a number of the issues that might have overburdened the agenda for the ordinary summit.

As I said, this morning's session was characterized by a frank, amicable dialogue. They discussed the first and only item: the uprising. The summit heard a report by PLO leader 'Arafat.

The Palestinian position was summarized in clear, basic points, which you see; but these do not constitute the summit's final position because it has not yet issued its final word on them. But since these points have enjoyed previous Arab unanimity in the Arab League Council and at numerous ministerial meetings, I can tell you about them.

The PLO considers the uprising to be a free and legitimate expression by the Palestinian people of their wishes, aspirations, and commitment to their proven rights. This mass popular expression is being greatly echoed in international quarters and by the overwhelming majority of non-Arab countries—in Europe, Africa, Asia, and America. It is important that this expression continues, to prove that the Palestinian people are committed to the principles of peace based on international law.

The Palestinian people believe deeply in their rights, and in the chance of securing these rights through the means it has been using since December 1987: peaceful means, expressive means that have a strong effect and could take the Palestinian question into a very important, and perhaps decisive, international process.

Therefore, the first point is a deep desire by the organization and the Palestinian people for genuine peace. What kind of peace will it be? The organization—and this is also the view of a previous all-Arab resolution by the League's council—thinks this peace should be through an international conference attended by all parties concerned in the Arab-Israeli conflict — including, naturally, the organization, the PLO—on equal footing. Such a conference would be also attended by the five UN Security Council permanent member states in order to guarantee the results [30 second break in transmission] which are all bent on action within international law, the conference has been thinking of meeting with this satisfaction, with this manner that is an expression of its satisfaction.

For the sake of truth, I must say that the chairmanship assumed by President Chadli Bendjedid has had a positive and effective role in the managing of this dialogue that has been—and I repeat for the second or third time—frank but cordial, extremely cordial, and extremely fraternal. President Chadli Bendjedid has had, then, a great and positive role in directing the debate and drawing the necessary conclusions from every stage in this debate, which has guaranteed that this debate will attain good results—preliminary, of course— in this first session.

Therefore, one can say that Mr Shamir's hopes of seeing this meeting fail will be thwarted by us. Perhaps we will thwart them. We regret this fact.

The Arabs meet with closed ranks and they will leave with closed ranks and with their word united and committed to continue the struggle with every means to defend their rights—primarily to defend the rights of the Palestinians.

If you have any questions about this first session, I would be happy to answer them, provided we do not take too long, since the next summit session will begin soon. If you wish, we could meet late this evening; as soon as the heads of state conclude their evening session we could again meet here immediately, if you wish.

[Unnamed correspondent] Radio France International, Arabic Service. One of the issues agreed on in the Amman summit is the freedom of Arab countries to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt. Is this issue going to be reiterated in the statement you mentioned, which would revert to what was agreed on in Amman? This is the first point. Will Egypt return to the Arab League in the coming summit, the ordinary one? The second question: Is there any Arab reconciliation expected in this summit, for instance Hafiz al-Asad with 'Arafat, King Hasan II with Hafiz al-Asad?

[Klibi] The first question consists of two parts. The first part concerns the restoration of bilateral relations between a number of Arab countries and the Arab Republic of Egypt. A well known decision was made on this in Amman, and this decision was implemented by a large majority of member countries. This is the responsibility of the rest of the countries, because the Amman summit considered it to be one of the sovereign responsibilities of each country. The Amman summit said this does not contradict the pan-Arab commitments, and any country, if it wishes, can restore relations with Egypt; and this is what a large number of countries have done. Since this is a procedural matter, and not a matter of principle, we do not expect the Algiers summit to return to it because the matter has basically been decided. Therefore, we hope it will achieve the desired positive development.

As for the return of Egypt to the Arab League, this was not discussed and no decision was made on it in Amman, so I cannot speak about this except in light of what the leaders say and decide. When the leaders get to this and discuss it, I will talk to you about it, if this happens.

As for the second question, I think this summit, being held in Algiers and, as I said, under the chairmanship of President Chadli Bendjedid who has been exerting continuous effort for a long time, and who increased these efforts some weeks ago in preparation for the summit—he is also working day and night within the summit. [sentence as heard]

I believe this is a very important opportunity and it must be seized. This was expressed by the leaders themselves this morning as they asked the conference chairman to arrange bilateral meetings not only for the sake of reconciliation but also for an exchange of views on some problems and issues that might lead sometimes to different viewpoints. This is normal, even among sister states. So I believe this issue will receive full attention, first of all from the conference chairman and from all states participating in the summit because there is a consensus on the importance of leaving this summit not only, as I said, united—as the leaders came already united—but also with unified, coordinated or harmonious ideas, analyses, and guidelines.

[Correspondent Adam Agaye, in French] Mr Secretary General, Adam Agaye, Africa No 1. The presence of current OAU Chairman Moussa Traore underlines the permament relations between the Arab world and Africa, but as you already know, a number of African countries have in the past year gradually restored diplomatic relations with Israel. You have indicated that in the negotiations or discussions that go beyond the main item on the agenda it will probably not be possible to issue resolutions. As for the relaunching of Arab-African cooperation, is there anything planned? If this is the case, what is its exact nature? Thank you.

[Klibi] The presence of President Moussa Traore at the summit's opening session had a far-reaching impact on all Arab leaders. This was expressed by President Chadli Bendjedid in his speech in which he welcomed President Traore, and during the meetings held on the summit sidelines with Mr Traore, as all the leaders thanked him, and congratulated him on his election as OAU chairman. They expressed to him their readiness to develop relations with the African community. In this respect, we can say that prospects are now very good for Arab-African cooperation. Following the meeting in Damascus, and after the African summit in Addis Ababa, a new impetus has been given to this Arab-African cooperation and some obstacles that were blocking its way for a while have been removed.

Now we expect this cooperation to be pushed forward more strongly. We also expect the permament committee to meet in Burkina Faso before the end of this year, and the foreign ministers from the Arab and African groups are also expected to meet next year to prepare the second Arab-African summit meeting. You recall that the first summit was held in 1977 in Cairo, and 1979 [as heard] will probably be the year during which the second Arab-African summit will be held. This will give another boost and a new impetus to the cooperation on which both Arab and African states attach great importance.

[Unidentified correspondent] Have you agreed on the size of Arab assistance to be given to the uprising—and I mean financial and material assistance? Have you also agreed on the means for getting this assistance to our people in the occupied territories? What about the continuation of assistance for the countries in confrontation with the Zionist enemy, assistance endorsed at the Baghdad summit?

[Klibi] On the last point, which is the most important one in my view, it is true that the (?assistance) endorsed at the Baghdad summit will lapse this year. The war between Arab countries and Israel will not end [words indistinct] and due to Israel's aggressive persistence against the Palestinian people on the West bank and the strip, and the Lebanese people in southern Lebanon and Lebanon in general on many occasions including, most importantly, the invasion in 1982. There has been more aggression against Baghdad and Tunis, and so on.

Therefore, the war is continuing because Israel chooses and prefers the situation to remain as it is. Arabs expressed readiness for true peace when they adopted the Fes plan in 1982, a clear basis that draws all its points from international law, and if Israel was truly concerned about its security and peace it would have agreed to deal with the Fes plan. However, Israel rejected the Fes plan, as it rejected

President Reagan's plan and president [title as heard] Brezhnev's plan before that, and as it rejected many initiatives. Why? Because Israel wants peace and wants to retain the occupied territories; it wants the Palestinian people to remain deprived of their legitimate national rights and it wants to dominate the region. This will not be accepted by our countries under any circumstances.

Concerning the previous question on Baghdad, I believe the most important reason why we have come here is the political, moral, and diplomatic support needed by the uprising. It is true that intensive Arab—and non-Arab—efforts have been made to support the uprising. At the UN, you remember that a ministerial committee of seven, in addition to the secretary general of the Arab League, went to the UN, addressed the UN Security Council, contacted the 5 permanent members of the UN Security Council, and contacted the other 10 UN Security Council member countries.

We are still making intensive efforts, but this is not enough. We must now draw up a plan of action. As I said yesterday in my speech, if you listened to it, we now need a plan of political, diplomatic, and media action to continue the uprising so that it will not be suffocated by the Zionist authorities. This is the most important thing. [words indistinct] as said in French intendance. We are not concerned about intendance. It is the concern of those who work on these financial matters. We are not concerned about these. It is not for the summit to enter into these details.

I fully agree with you that Lebanon deserves more Arab and international effort to lift it out of the pit it is in as a result of the Zionist Israeli interventions in its affairs, especially the successive invasions of its territory and the continuing occupation of a very important piece of its south, which is rich with water. Known resolutions were passed by the Security Council, which also called for the ending of this occupation. It is true that our states should intensify efforts to support Lebanon in international gatherings, and this is what I demand; to this end Arab reconciliation and Arab consensus is indeed taking place. There are no Arab states that do not believe in the need to exert more effort to assist Lebanon.

But I must also say—and I know this is difficult in the current circumstances, and I know the obstacles preventing it—some internal reconciliation should emerge gradually to control the internal conditions. It is true that this is linked to the first thing and the first thing is linked to it. Also, the Lebanese problem is linked in many ways with the Palestine problem and although we cannot delay treating it until the Palestine problem ends—this is not reasonable—all this points to the many complications surrounding this problem from which a dear country suffers. You know this country enjoys great sympathy, fraternity, and love from its Arab brothers. It also enjoys friendship and amity in the international sphere.

[Unidentified correspondent] Your Excellency Secretary General: If you please, in your statement you mentioned that agreement has been reached to [word indistinct] the agenda of the Riyadh summit. Does this mean that the Riyadh Summit will be held on time in November, or has its date been [word indistinct]? The second question regards the committee charged with following up on the uprising: If possible, can we know the atmosphere or the impression the committee derived after meeting the Security Council members, or whether the international climate now is better regarding an understanding of the Palestinian question? Thank you.

[Klibi] The ministerial committee charged with following up on the uprising has—as I have told you—carried out an urgent and concentrated task. We can sum up by saying that the overwhelming majority of its contacts were positive; we have recorded good and positive attitudes—although these varied in language and orientation—from the western and eastern states, from Moscow and Beijing to Paris and London. I should duly say that the U.S. attitude is the only one that differs from the other attitudes we heard in all the capitals that the ministerial committee visited. Therefore, this briefly is what we can say about the second point.

On the Riyadh summit—the normal date is November, the end of the year. The Kingdom will choose the particular month as this is left for the state that hosts the summit. The date may be before or after that by a short time. But I think the belief now is that the ordinary summit, the Riyadh summit, will be a very important one because it will deal with fateful and primary issues. The number of issues is small, but the volume is very large. [Correspondent] Mr Secretary General, I am 'Ali [name indistinct] from AL-MASA. In your answer to a question a short while ago about the form of support that the Arab countries are rendering to the uprising, you said that that material aspect will be shouldered by other sides. We did not understand what you meant by this. Will the Arab summit issue a document that will make it binding on all Arab countries to render political, moral, and material support to the uprising, or will the form of such support be left to individual initiatives by each state? The second question is: Is the discussion of the Shultz plan—in his fourth tour of the region—on the summit agenda? Thank you.

[Klibi] The support we expect from the summit conference is, as I have said, political, moral, diplomatic, and media support. This is because I believe the current situation is one that makes it inevitable for us to use every means. Political pressure should be used, and this is up to the uprising, which is bringing material pressure to bear on Israel every day. On the other hand, the role of the other countries that are members of the League is to support this action in the field by moves of another kind—as I have said: political moves, diplomatic moves, and media moves. At this level of discussions at the conference no reference was made to financial aspects. In my opinion, this is a secondary issue in comparison with the great objectives of the uprising.

The uprising is an effort to convince the world public of the just nature of the Palestinian cause, because part of the world public believes the Palestinian question is over, that the Palestinian people are happy with their life on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, that only 'Arafat speaks about the Palestinian issue, and that the issue is over. Thus, the Palestinian masses have taken it upon themselves to disprove this allegation. They have also taken it upon themselves to disprove the claim that the relationship between the Palestinians living inside Israel, within the 1948 borders, and the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been cut off. This, too, has been refuted and denied. This is the important thing.

The other aspects which [words indistinct] these are other subjects. The conference will indeed look into them, but I believe they are of such importance that we must examine them as central issues.

Concerning the Shultz plan, it is not a topic on the agenda and we do not believe that talks will focus on it. Perhaps a leader—or leaders—will mention it or assess it in their comments; this is possible, no doubt, but it is not [word indistinct] nor will it be a topic that will be examined. This is due to a simple reason: This initiative is still-born due to Mr Shamir. How can one seriously look into an initiative, whether U.S. or non-U.S., if it is rejected by the other side.

It is essential in setting up any move toward peace that Israel be in agreement, or at least convinced. Shamir says no to everything; no to an international conference; no to the PLO; no to an independent Palestinian state; no to the liberation of the lands. Then what peace does Shamir want? It is a peace that could be called surrender. He wants to maintain the Palestinian lands under his hegemony; he wants to keep South Lebanon under his control; and he wants the Arabs to recognize him. This will not happen, and this is an illusion by Mr Shamir.

[Unnamed correspondent] AL-SAWT AL-'ARABI, in (?Palermo). In your address yesterday, on page one you spoke about the uprising, and you said: This refutes that there is a divide between Palestinians inside Israel and outside Israel. Does this mean that the secretary general recognizes a land for Israel? If this is not so, was the text an error? It is requested that the text be corrected, all the more since it was an address by the secretary general. This is one.

Second, Mr Secretary General, you spoke about the United States and used the expression: the U.S. position distinguished itself. We understood distinguished itself to mean differed. This means it was negative. Should we expect from the secretary general, who was defining Shamir's position—which is the U.S. position on peace and peace projects, the United States that has used the veto and arms—should we expect from the secretary general, in the session on the uprising or the session on steadfastness, some sort of position against the United States?

[Klibi] You are welcome. The secretary general proceeds from pan-Arab resolutions. He does not make personal interpretations of facts. In this particular case, we proceed from the Fes plan that was adopted by all the leaders, and adopted by all Palestinians, with no Palestinian faction being an exception. The Fes plan stems from international law.

We know that international law is unjust; we have said this many times. International law is unjust. The Palestinian homeland is a homeland whose half, or about half—now more than half—was cut in order to be given to [word indistinct]. This is historic injustice. However, after 40 years of the Palestinian and Arab struggle, the leaders of our countries decided to resort to international law, international legitimacy, which (? is not) the ethical legitimacy. International legitimacy and ethical legitimacy are different. The Fes plan said that we are ready to have peace with Israel on the basis of restoration of the territories occupied in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem, and on the basis of the Palestinian peoples' right to self-determination, including the establishment of an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

This is one issue. The second issue about which I was asked is the U.S. position. We are not here to assess the U.S. position. When I stand before you, I am not in a press conference, but am here only to tell you about what is happening at the summit. On other occasions, the secretary general holds press conferences and talks about a number of issues. But now, and for honesty's sake, I should give you accurate information about what is happening with the summit.

I was asked about results of the ministerial committee's visits, and I said briefly—and we could talk about what in more detail—that the positions were good and positive from the overwhelming majority of the countries. Except one country, the United States, which differed from the rest by adopting a position contradicting international legitimacy and contradicting the right, recognized by international law, for Palestinian self-determination. This is well known and I do not need to repeat it again.

[Unnamed correspondent] Mr Secretary General, because I am a Lebanese journalist, I should first ask about my country, even if this could be considered a regional attitude. But I would like to draw attention to the fact that the Lebanese issue has become a comprehensive pan-Arab issue. So far, you have been giving the Lebanese issue theoretical attention. What we would like you to convey to the summit on our behalf as newsmen and citizens, is that Lebanon, which was torn by an Israeli conspiracy according to an Israeli project—quite frankly financed by Arabs, even if some local agent leaders have also hurt it—is, despite all this, the only country fighting Israel.

On behalf of 150 million Arabs and 1 billion Muslims, we think that if there is any aid to support the Lebanese struggle against Israel, on behalf of all the Arabs and Muslims, then this aid should not be given to the leaders involved in the internal conspiracy against Lebanon who are supported by foreign powers and who constitute one side of the conflict. This is a question, or a proposal, as you have solicited proposals.

The second matter is: Israel forms the crisis for all Arabs, and we must respond to it as Arabs. Within the framework of the Arab League, and in resolutions adopted by the League banning direct dealing and negotiation with Israel, what we can see is that heads of state participating in this conference have openly conferred with the Israeli enemy and with their prime minister. You might say that they have repented, but we consider this to be a scheme agreed on with the enemy according to which the dealing with Israel would be considered as dealing with any Arab country: Sometimes they are on good terms, sometimes on bad terms. Therefore, it becomes normalization of relations with those who normalized relations with the enemy. Peace be on you.

[Klibi] If you agree, this should be the last question because the heads of state have begun entering the conference hall and my duty is to be by their side. I would like to say to my Lebanese brother who said that I am personally sympathetic to Lebanon; and the summit, and all summits were always sympathetic to Lebanon and decided on moral and financial aid to it.

However, the circumstances of the security situation inside Lebanon is what has prevented the spending of all the sums allocated to assisting Lebanon. But what we must keep in mind is that Lebanon has given to the Palestinian and pan-Arab causes more than any other state, despite its small size and capability, because it has made sacrifices not only in people but also in national territory and sovereignty. It thus deserves from us every respect and backing. What the Lebanese resistance had done in southern Lebanon is indeed a source of pride for all. As I said yesterday in my speech, the Lebanese resistance did not only defend Lebanese territory and sovereignty, but also the dignity of the entire Arab nation. Thank you.

Jordanian on 'Uprising'

JN0806195388 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Algiers — Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has said that Jordan does not need to be reminded that the uprising needs to be supoported. He added: Since the beginning, Jordan took the initiative by supporting the uprising. Accordingly, popular and official committees were formed to achieve this purpose. Besides, Jordan, through His Majesty King Husayn, committed itself to supporting the families of the martyrs whose numbers increase with the continuation and escalation of the popular uprising.

In an interview with the radio team in Algiers, Abu 'Awdah said: Jordan is providing other forms of support for the uprising due to the direct relationship being maintained between Jordan and the kinfolk in the occupied territories. This relationship gives Jordan, more than other parties, the opportunity to support the uprising. Jordan initiated the provision of support before this support was requested and this was motivated by an eagerness to embody its commitment to its pan-Arab stand and to also help the uprising and the Palestinian people.

He said if support is being demanded, it must emanate from outside Jordan so it can be added to the support being provided by Jordan.

Abu 'Awdah added: The important thing is to see this support reach the kinfolk in the occupied territories, whether this is to materialize through Jordan, the PLO, or any other international organization.

He affirmed that Jordan's stand on this issue is based on two things: first, the need to support the kinfolk in the occupied territories; second, the need to see this support reach its destination.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Meeting Traore

LD0806203188 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received this morning in the Algerian capital Moussa Traore, president of Mali, who is attending the extraordinary Arab summit in his capacity as current OAU chairman. President Traore confirmed during this meeting the importance of Arab-African cooperation in the confrontation of the imperialist and Zionist challenges which face the Arab nation and the African peoples.

The brother leader of the revolution made a statement to Radio Mali.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent, in French with subsequent Arabic translation] Can you tell us about your meeting with President Moussa Traore, which was a long one?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] First, I met him to thank him and express my appreciation for his role in the Arab summit conference in the name of Mali, himself, and the OAU. We thank him for the valuable speech he delivered which was broadcast by Libyan media. We will try to make it heard in the Arab world, the whole world. In addition, we carried out a quick review of fraternal relations and ways to develop cooperation between Libya and Mali. We spoke about the need to revive the group of countries neighboring the Sahara which met several times in the past and then stopped. We want to resume those meetings.

Also, of course, we spoke about Chad and we agreed on the exchange of prisoners through the OAU and President Moussa Traore. I told him Libya is ready to open a people's bureau in Ndjamena and ready to accept an embassy for Ndjamena in Tripoli so that understanding between the two countries can begin straight away. We agreed on the need for our problems to be solved through an African fraternal spirit and that we should exclude foreign interference in our problems they created so as to interfere later and this is what happened. Thank you. [end recording]

Al-Qadhdhafi Comments on Summit

LD0806210688 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] This morning in Algiers the brother leader of the revolution received Brother Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the State Council of sisterly Sudan, who is taking part in the work of the extraordinary Arab summit. The brother leader made a statement to Sudanese television.

[begin recording] [Unidentified interviewer] Your arrival in Algeria and your participation in the work of this summit indicate your concern for the Palestinian cause and your interest in the Palestinian uprising inside the occupied land. How do you see the form of support which can be given?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] First, this is almost the first Arab summit that I have attended for more than 15 years, because we regard it as a summit for the revolution, the Palestinian revolution. Since it concerns the revolution, I am attending this summit because I am with the revolution. In fact there is nothing in my dictionary about support — I favor the liberation of Palestine. The solution is to unite the Arab nation and liberate Palestine.

We consider Palestine today like Algeria yesterday: it was occupied and France used to boast and consider it part of France. There used to be as many French settlers as there are Israelis now in Palestine. And yet those French settlers were expelled, Algeria became Arab, and the Algerian people won full independence. The Algerian people were the last to win independence after World War II, through revolution and 1.5 million martyrs.

The Palestinian people still regard Palestine as an issue of colonialism which continues to exist after World War II. The Palestinian people are struggling and the Arab nation should struggle with them in order to liberate Palestine. Even we Arabs were in Andalusia for 800 years; generations were born there but they were expelled and inquisitions were held and those of Arab origin were expelled from the Iberian Peninsula. Thus I have no confidence in talk about support. This is our cause and our battle and we should fight for the liberation of Palestine and for this to be effective we should unite the Arab nation. This is what I [words indistinct].

[Interviewer] What are your views on the creation of unity among the states of the Arab Maghreb?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Of course this idea is now within reach, God willing, and will see light thanks to the endeavor of my brothers, the leaders of the Arab Maghreb. We see it as a step on the road to comprehensive Arab unity. And I hope we will hold a Maghreb summit on the sidelines of this Arab summit to lay the ground for the unity of the Arab Maghreb. I see events going this way: the unity of the Arab nation country by country, region by region, until this unity is complete and the liberation of Palestine is achieved. This should be clear in the minds of the current Arab generation and coming generations. Thank you. [end recording]

Al-Jumayyil Meets Leaders

NC0906051788 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil held two consecutive meetings at midnight last night at the end of the second session of the Arab summit. After meeting with Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi for 30 minutes, President al-Jumayyil met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in the presence of Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid attended the last part of this meeting, which lasted 40 minutes. It has been learned that the Lebanese-Syrian meeting was held after the mediation of Saudi King Fahd, Jordan's King Husayn, and Algerian President Bendjedid.

[In a similar report on these two meetings, (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic at 0445 GMT adds: "Sharp discussions dealing with the Libyan military presence in some Lebanese areas took place during the meeting between Al-Qadhdhafi and Al-Jumayyil. It has been reported that President al-Jumayyil has asked Al-Qadhdhafi to withdraw the Libyans from Lebanon."]

Palestinian Affairs

'Uprising' Leadership Sends Message to Summit

JN0706220088 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1605 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Message addressed to the Arab kings and presidents at the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers by the "Unified National Leadership of the Uprising — PLO"; date, place not given]

[Text] Brother Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, Your Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, chairman of the Arab summit conference, esteemed kings and presidents of the Arab countries: From the main arena of conflict with our nation's enemies and from the heart of holy Jerusalem, the cradle of religions, we address you to acquaint you with the sufferings of our steadfast people, of martyrs and the hundreds of women who suffered miscarriages from poisonous gases.

Our entire people appeal to you to shoulder your pan-Arab responsibilities for supporting them and extending actual assistance to them to confront attempts to ignore them and harm their political entity and the PLO, the leader of their struggle and their sole, legitimate representative, and the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, their struggling arm in the occupied territories. Our people are determined to offer every sacrifice for the sake of their freedom and their legitimate national rights, foremost of which are the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state under the PLO.

We are confident the Arab nation will not disappoint the militant people of Palestine and will not refrain from supporting them with all means. We are also confident that our glorious nation's resources will deter the usurping enemy if some of these capabilities are used to support our struggle. Our people and the masses of the uprising expect your esteemed conference to shoulder the pan-Arab responsibility of supporting our heroic uprising and the leader of the Palestinian people's struggle and the PLO, their sole, legitimate representative, politically, materially, diplomatically, and morally.

We expect you to lend this support to enable them to achieve their goals, by defending our sanctities and the honor of Arabism, and to enable them to live in freedom on their national soil. While we expect your conference to take a clear-cut policy and support our struggle and our sole, legitimate representative, we pledge to you in the name of our masses in the occupied homeland and the masses of the uprising to continue struggle to achieve the following:

1. Secure international protection for our masses from the crimes of the Zionist occupation to pave the way to end the occupation and achieve our people's freedom and independence.

2. Cancel emergency laws and achieve the withdrawal of the Zionist army from the cities, villages, and camps.

3. Foil all the suspected plans which deny our people's rights. These plans include the autonomy rule, Camp David, and Shultz' initiative.

4. Convene an international conference with full powers to be attended by the permanent Security Council member states as well as by the PLO independently and on an equal footing with all other parties, considering this conference as the only way to bring about a lasting, just, and comprehensive peace.

5. Establish an independent national state under the PLO, its sole, legitimate representative.

While we hope your conference will realize its cherished aims, we demand that your governments approve the following:

1. Persevere in carrying out a large-scale media campaign to expose the occupation authorities' practices against our people.

2. Effect permanent and continuous coordination with our sole, legitimate representative, the PLO, based on equality and independence.

3. Release Palestinian detainees in some Arab jails.

4. Allow Palestinian communities in the host Arab countries to establish their institutions and unions to be devoted to permanent participation in the struggle against the Zionist entity.

5. Establish permanent supporting funds for the PLO and funneling all Arab assistance through them.

6. Open Arab frontiers to the fighters of the Palestinian revolution and establish military training camps.

As Palestinian people, our 70 years of struggle have been crowned with the present uprising. Our struggle has realized great achievements for our people and all of the Arab peoples, preserving the dignity of all of us and consecrating our persistent struggle to win our legitimate aspirations to live with honor. Your support for our struggle to establish an independent state is an essential factor for uniting the glorious Arab nation.

Long live the glorious Arab people. Long live our heroic Palestinian people. Long live the PLO, our sole, legitimate representative.

Egypt

'Abd al-Majid Leaves for UN Disarmament Session

NC0906075688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jun (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo on his way to New York this morning to attend the UN General Assembly's 3d session on disarmament. The session opened last Monday and will continue until 16 June. Dr 'Abd al-Majid, who is scheduled to address the United Nations on 13 June, plans to emphasize Egypt's stand on all the issues pertaining to disarmament as a basis for establishing world peace.

Alleged Israeli Infiltration Attempt 'Foiled'

NC0806164388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—In a news report datelined Geneva, the Egyptian magazine AL-MUSAWWAR says an Israeli attempt to infiltrate into 19 African countries, using the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] as a cover, has been foiled thanks to constructive cooperation among Arab and African countries.

In its issue, which will appear this Friday, the magazine cites what it describes as "highly placed" sources as saying that the UNDP cancelled an agreement this week which it had secretly signed with the Israeli Government in New York on 22 February 1988. According to this agreement, the program was to provide Israel financial assistance, which it would use to supply African countries with technical expertise in social and economic fields.

The UNDP, the magazine writes, has notified the Israeli Government that the agreement, which has stirred a wave of Arab and African protests as soon as word of it spread, is henceforth null and void.

Observers in Geneva believe that the cancellation of the agreement days before the UNDP governing council meeting, scheduled to be held in Geneva this month, was aimed to avert a potential confrontation during the meeting and to preserve the UNDP's reputation. Nineteen African countries which receive aid from the program have declared they would not accept assistance from the Israeli Government, out of fear that Israeli intelligence operatives would possibly use the program as a cover to infiltrate into them.

The magazine says the agreement was signed in secret by Arthur Brown, UNDP assistant general coordinator [name and title as received], and by the general director of the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

Reportage on Visit of Botswana Foreign Minister

Joint Communique Signed

NC0806205288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1818 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—Egypt and Botswana have asserted that the convening of an international peace conference under UN auspices and with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO, is the best framework to attain a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis.

The two countries expressed great concern over the tense situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which has resulted from the continuing unlawful and inhuman Israeli measures against the Palestinian people. They urged the occupation authorities to observe the Fourth Geneva Convention, which deals with such a situation.

This came in a joint communique signed this evening by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Gaositwe Chiepe, Botswana foreign minister, at the conclusion of the latter's official 4-day visit to Cairo.

Egypt and Botswana condemned South Africa's racist policy and its continued occupation of Namibia. They asserted their support for the African Frontline States and welcomed the current talks which seek to achieve peace in Angola in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 435.

The two countries praised the efforts made by the OAU Contact Group to mobilize the international community for the sake of holding an international conference to discuss the issue of foreign debts of African countries.

Egypt and Botswana welcomed important international developments and the rapprochement between the superpowers.

The communique urged the nonaligned countries to carry out a reassessment of the international situation and the effect which recent international developments have had on Third World countries and their just causes.

Following the signing of the communique, Dr Butrus Ghali stated that Mrs Chiepe's visit to Cairo is a constructive step toward boosting Egyptian-Botswana friendship.

He added that the visit established a positive framework for developing bilateral relations in all spheres. He noted in this connection that a joint communique had been signed, as well as an agreement for technical cooperation under which Botswana will receive Egyptian expertise through the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation With Africa.

Ends Visit, Departs

NC0906071088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jun (MENA)—Botswana Foreign Minister Gaositwe Chiepe left Cairo this morning on her way to the PRC at the conclusion of a 4-day visit. During her stay in Cairo she conveyed a message from the Botswana president to President Husni Mubarak inviting him to visit Botswana, and held talks with Egyptian officials on ways of strengthening bilateral relations in all fields. Chiepe's visit was in response to an invitation by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. She was seen off by Nabil al-Sillawi, director of the Foreign Ministry's Africa Department, and Ambassador Anis Ni'matallah, deputy director of the Protocol Department.

Joint Communique With CAR Issued 8 Jun

NC0806103888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—Egypt and the Central African Republic [CAR] have reiterated their support for the Palestinian people's national rights, particularly the right to self-determination. The two countries also stressed that holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East under UN auspices would present the best opportunity for reaching a peaceful, just, and lasting solution to this problem.

In a joint communique issued today, at the end of the visit by CAR President Andre Kolingba to Cairo and his talks with President Husni Mubarak, the two parties praised the heroic resistance of the Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and denounce the violent practices used against the Palestinian people in the Israeli occupied territories.

The communique strongly condemns the racist Pretoria government's policy of discrimination and disgraceful practices. It underlines the support of Egypt and CAR for the South African liberation movements, SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization], and the African Frontline States.

The communique calls for the immediate implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 on the Iraq-Iran war. The two countries reiterate their commitment to the principles and aims of the OAU, which represents the framework for African joint action and solidarity.

The communique praises the excellent level of bilateral relations and stresses the continued support of the two countries for regional and area cooperation in the implementation of the Lagos action plan and final communique. The communique welcomes the rapprochement between the two superpowers. The two countries reiterate their commitment to supporting the Nonaligned Movement's constructive contribution to strengthening world peace and achieving nuclear disarmament and peaceful coexistence among all countries.

Here is the text of the joint communique signed by President Mubarak and CAR President Kolingba:

At the invitation of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, CAR President Andre Kolingba paid an official visit to Egypt from 6 to 8 June 1988.

President Mubarak held a series of talks with President Kolingba during which the two presidents reiterated their determination to strengthen the ties of friendship and solidarity between Egypt and CAR. They praised the excellent level of bilateral relations and reiterated their political desire to exert all efforts to intensify and diversify bilateral cooperation in all fields.

In addition to aspects of bilateral cooperation, the two presidents reiterated the commitment of both countries to continue their support for regional and area cooperation in implementation of the Lagos action plan and final communique.

Presidents Mubarak and Kolingba also reviewed principal African and international problems, expressing satisfaction with the identity of their views on these problems.

On the occasion of the OAU's silver jubilee, the two presidents reiterated the commitment of their countries to the principles and objectives of this regional organization, which acts as a framework for African joint action and solidarity. Presidents Mubarak and Kolingba affirmed their determination to utilize all capabilities in support of the organization. In this regard, the two leaders declared their will to continue their efforts to implement the Addis Ababa final declaration, which was approved by the heads of state and governments on 25 May 1988.

Regarding the situation in South Africa, Presidents Mubarak and Kolingba vehemently condemned the policy of racial discrimination and atrocities being pursued by the racist regime of Pretoria. They addressed an appeal to the international community to impose comprehensive, obligatory sanctions on this regime to ensure complete elimination of apartheid and an immediate, unconditional implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 concerning Namibian independence.

The two presidents reaffirmed their support for the South African liberation movements, SWAPO, and the African Frontline States. The two leaders addressed an appeal to the Frontline States, particularly the People's Republic of Angola, to work painstakingly to resolve the existing dispute in South Africa through negotiations. The two leaders voiced support for the initiatives Angola and Mozambique have begun to establish peace. They expressed the conviction that these initiatives will contribute to immediate implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 and the speedy establishment of peace and security in this region of the continent.

Touching on the Libyan-Chadian dispute, Presidents Mubarak and Kolingba reiterated their support for the policy of President Hissein Habre's government, which aims to ensure Chad's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity by adopting a policy of dialogue and peace. Furthermore, the two leaders affirmed their support for the efforts being made by the OAU's follow-up committee in this regard.

Dealing with the Western Sahara issue, the two presidents expressed the conviction that implementation of various resolutions adopted by the OAU and the United Nations represents the ideal way to achieve a just and fair solution to this dispute.

Reviewing the economic situation in Africa, both presidents expressed their deep concern about the foreign debt problem. They praised the positive results of the OAU extraordinary summit conference and the activities of liaison groups assigned to urge the international community to back the convening of an international conference to discuss Africa's foreign debts. Both presidents reasserted their support for the OAU's appeal to convene this conference at the most appropriate time, not later than the end of 1989.

The presidents paid special attention to the Middle East problem and reiterated their support for the Palestinian people's national rights, especially their right to self-determination. They expressed their conviction that a just and permanent peace in the region can be established only on the basis of respect for these national rights and the return of the land occupied by Israel since June 1967. The two presidents emphasized that convening an international peace conference under the aegis of the United Nations and in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the PLO, offers the best opportunity to achieve a peaceful, just, and permanent settlement of this problem.

Both leaders praised the heroic resistance of the Palestinian people who are living under Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They denounced the acts of violence against the Palestinian people in the territory occupied by Israel. They condemned the arbitrary use of violence and repression against defenseless Palestinian civilians and the arbitrary detention, illegal trial, and expulsion of Palestinian citizens from their land, in violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Regarding the Iran-Iraq war, they expressed their support for Security Council Resolution 598 and called for its immediate implementation. Concerning Arab-African cooperation, in which both Egypt and CAR are especially interested, the two presidents underlined the importance of strengthening solidarity and cooperation between Africans and Arabs, who are linked by history, civilization, and a common hope for a better future for the African and Arab peoples.

The two presidents reiterated their commitment to supporting the Nonaligned Movement's basic and constructive role of enhancing world peace and achieving nuclear disarmament and peaceful coexistence. They renewed their confidence in the movement's policy toward the two blocs and expressed their determination to continue efforts to uphold the principles of the nonaligned countries.

The two presidents also welcomed the rapprochement between the two superpowers and stressed that if the easing of tension is to be permanent it should be global, comprehensive, and open to all. In this regard, the two presidents called on the Nonaligned Movement to start the process of reassessing the international situation and the effect of this development on Third World countries and their just causes.

Presidents Mubarak and Kolingba also stressed the importance of developments in disarmament. They renewed their support for the aim of general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under effective international supervision. They also underlined the tangible connection between disarmament on one hand and international development and security on the other. They stressed the validity of the special declaration approved in Cairo in 1964 on making Africa a nuclear-free zone.

The two presidents expressed their deep concern about the process of burying nuclear and industrial wastes in African countries. They declared their intention to combat this practice, which is a crime against Africa and the African peoples.

President Andre Kolingba expressed on behalf of his delegation and himself his thanks and appreciation for the fraternal and very cordial welcome he and his delegation received in Egypt. His excellency invited President Mubarak to pay an official visit to CAR. President Mubarak has accepted this invitation, and the date will be set later through diplomatic channels.

Signed in Cairo on 8 June 1988

On behalf of the Arab Republic of Egypt, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak

On behalf of the Central African Republic, President Andre Kolingba

Parliamentary Delegation Departs for Ankara

NC0806133288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub left for Ankara this afternoon with an Assembly delegation. This is the first visit to Turkey by an Egyptian parliamentary delegation.

In a predeparture statement Al-Mahjub said he is carrying a written message from President Mubarak to Turkish President Kenan Evren. The week-long visit, Al-Mahjub said, is in response to an invitation from the Turkish parliament. Al-Mahjub voiced the hope that the visit will help strengthen ties between the two parliamentary bodies and nations.

Al-Mahjub said he will use the visit to coordinate positions with Turkish parliamentarians prior to international parliamentary conference meetings. He noted that the Egyptians will hold talks with Turkish parliamentarians and government officials aimed at consolidating economic and political ties. Al-Mahjub lauded the strong ties linking the two countries and noted the friendship between Presidents Mubarak and Evren.

Members of the Egyptian parliamentary delegation include Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee; Tal'at Mustafa, chairman of the Housing Committee; Mahmud Salim, member; Nawal 'Amir, deputy chairman of the Local Government Committee; and Faydah Kamil, deputy chairman of the Culture and Information Committee.

Libya

General People's Congress Issues Resolution

LD0906015288 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The Secretariat of the General People's Congress has issued Resolution No 51 for 1988 regarding the calling of the General People's Congress into an emergency session. Here is its text:

The Secretariat of the General People's Congress, after taking cognizance of the establishment of the people's authority, and of General People's Congress Resolution No 10 for 1988 concerning the issuing of the general regulations of the people's congresses, has decided:

Article 1. The General People's Congress is called on to convene in an emergency session on Saturday 28 Shawal 1397, corresponding to 11 June 1988, in the city of Al-Bayda' in the municipality of Al-Jabal al-Akhar at 0900 to draft the document of human rights in the era of the masses.

Article 2. This resolution is to be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Secretariat of the General People's Congress.

Sudan

Army Issues Statement on Clash With Rebels

JN0806184488 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Khartoum, June 8 (SUNA) — The Armed Forces have attacked the Nile Province destroying and capturing a number of armours, [as received] trucks and personnel carriers, a statement by the Armed Forces issued today said.

The statement however failed to give any date for the attack or the number of those killed on either side, if any.

The statement said the rebel camp in Baidit has been totally put out of action. It added that the Army has also destroyed Lil, Aliar and Kunti camps in the same region.

The statement said "large quantities of arms and ammunitions" were also seized by the Army.

On the other hand the Armed Forces combing campaign has continued in Bahr al- Ghazal region near Un Al [as received] area where the Army troops clashed with the SPLA (Sudan People's Liberation Army) elements killing seven, including an officer and confiscating quantities of arms and ammunitions, the statment said today.

Meanwhile the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Gen. Fathi Ahmad 'Ali sent a cable of congratulation and support to the Armed Forces units in "the operations zones" expressing the support and backing of the Sudanese people and government to the Army fighting the rebels.

'Biggest' Rebel Camp Destroyed

EA0806220488 Khartoum SUNA in French 1540 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jun (SUNA) — The Sudanese Armed Forces have destroyed the biggest rebel camp in the Upper Nile Region, a communique from the Army headquarters says.

According to the communique, the deterrent forces attacked the Baidit camp, which consists of 16 buildings housing SPLA soldiers, a well equipped hospital, vehicle maintenance workshops, arms, and large water containers. The Armed Forces said they recovered a number of tractors and spare parts.

On their way to Baidit camp, the Armed Forces also destroyed other rebel installations in the localities of Lil, Aliar, and Kunti and recovered a quantity of arms and equipment. The government troops also combed Bahr al-Ghazal Province and opened feeder roads, notably in the region of Uwayl, where a battle between the Armed Forces and the rebels took place in which seven rebels were killed, among them a lieutenant.

'Aziz Says Ties With Egypt 'Fraternal, Close'

NC0806182388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has welcomed Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi's scheduled visit to Baghdad this June, stressing that it will help greatly to cultivate bilateral relations.

In an interview with the Egyptian magazine AL-MUSAWWAR, 'Aziz described Egyptian-Iraqi relations as fraternal, close, and encompassing several fields. In the interview, which the magazine will publish in its 10 June edition, 'Aziz said: We have agreed to discuss ways to organize our relationship and develop it to a high level; namely, to the level of heads of governments. This is an indication of the high level of bilateral relations.

In his interview with AL-MUSAWWAR, 'Aziz affirmed that the Iraqi forces' recapture of Al-Faw and Shalamcheh from the Iranian forces has decided the war not in Iraq's favor, but in favor of peace. He said: I emphasize the last sentence. Iraq did not start the war nor did Iraq desire it. The war was imposed on Iraq. The aim of Iraq's fight and struggle is to ensure that a just peace is established between the two countries, with each side respecting the other's sovereignty and freedom in choosing its particular political and social system.

'Aziz explained that the recent Iraqi victories in Al-Faw and Shalamcheh have strengthened the possibility that peace may be realized. However, at the same time, he stressed that the Iranian leadership is arrogant, dominates its people, and continues to insist on war.

As for international efforts to end the war, 'Aziz reaffirmed that UN Security Council Resolution 598 provides the framework within which the conflict between Iraq and Iran should be resolved.

Regarding UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's plan and his dialogue with Iran and Iraq on the technical details for implementation of Resolution 598, which Iraq has accepted but toward which Iran has not adopted a clear stand, 'Aziz said: We will talk with Perez de Cuellar whenever he wishes. However, these proposals have proved their uselessness. Without a frank, declared, documented, and unconditional Iranian acceptance of this resolution, there cannot be, from a practical viewpoint, any talks or dialogue on implementation of Resolution 598, either on the technical or any other level.

On the superpowers' stand toward the Iran-Iraq war, 'Aziz said: In our estimation, the United States and the Soviet Union want to find a way to end this war. They have expressed this stand in the past few years, and especially through adoption of Resolution 598, to which they are bound. However, there are differences between the two superpowers over the ways and steps which should be taken to implement the resolution.

In this respect, 'Aziz noted that the United States insists on the need to move to the stage of imposing sanctions on Iran because it has not accepted the resolution. On the other hand, he noted that Soviet officials are not yet determined or enthusiastic about adopting this step, which would be a strong instrument of pressure on Iran to accept the resolution.

The Soviets have taken this position despite their belief—which they have voiced repeatedly—that Iran is not going to accept Resolution 598, 'Aziz said. He added that this is a point on which Iraq can hardly agree with the Soviet position. Iraq, however, has high regard for the Soviet Union's call to end the war, as well as a high regard for Iraqi-Soviet and Arab-Soviet friendship.

Concerning the formation of a committee to decide which side started the war, 'Aziz told AL-MUSAWWAR that Iraq has accepted UN Security Council Resolution No 598, including its sixth clause. Iraq, he said, has no objection to the implementation of this clause, but is very specific about the sequence in which it should be implemented.

'Aziz said: We are not afraid of the formation of such a committee. However, if we are talking about peace between Iraq and Iran, then we are talking about the implementation of Resolution 598 in all its parts. There is no reason why we should begin with the sixth clause in particular.

Tariq 'Aziz described as futile the call for a neutral committee to begin investigations. Such a committee will be a waste of time for the United Nations, Iraq, and Iran. It will not serve the goal of peace in any conceivable way, he said.

Asked if Iran would mount a large-scale military offensive following Iraq's recent victory, 'Aziz said that Iran is unlikely to launch any more land attacks of the same magnitude as before. The reason, he said, is that the Iranian leadership has sapped and drained the material and spiritual potentials of the Iranian people in this war.

Regarding the recent French-Iranian rapprochement, 'Aziz said: We are not worried about this rapprochement, but we call on others not to broaden their ties with Tehran in a hasty manner so as not to harm the peace prospects.

In principle, 'Aziz said, we have no objection to people having normal ties with Iran. We would have liked to have normal ties with Iran ourselves. But, experience taught us that the establishment of ties with Iran or the extension of ties to include closer political involvement, wider trade, or military deals could encourage this arrogant and aggressive regime to press ahead with its policies. This could harm peace not only with regard to the Iraq-Iran conflict, but with respect to the whole region. We say this frankly to our French friends, 'Aziz said.

As for Iraqi-Syrian ties, 'Aziz told AL-MUSAWWAR that this issue is up to Syria to decide. If Syria insists on maintaining its alliance with the Iranians, then we cannot have normal ties with it.

AL-THAWRAH Comments on Rafsanjani Appointment

JN0706112788 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 3 Jun 88 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "If Some Iranians Have Accepted the Idea of Heaven's Keys From Khomeyni, Will They Accept It From Rafsanjani?"]

[Text] In an interesting dramatic development, Khomeyni yesterday issued a decision appointing [Hashemi]-Rafsanjani as commander in chief of the Iranian Armed Forces. Tehran radio, which reported the appointment, has said Khomeyni simply made this decision at the recommendation of the regime's President Khamene'i.

Evidently the message from Khamene'i to Khomeyni in this regard is no more than theatrical. This conclusion is based on the decision itself. As well as certain hints made to known foreign sides from those who know Rafsanjani and his connections and contacts.

First, we must say here that Khomeyni's decision, which came after our great and decisive victories in the Al-Faw battle and Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh] liberation, clearly reflects the difficult dilemma in which Iran is trapped in the military, political, and psychological fields. This dilemma caused defeated Iranian rulers to become muddled and search, in vain, for a solution and an exit from that dilemma.

Surely, this decision is not a solution to the Iranian dilemma. The only correct solution is a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace, the rejection of war methods, rejection of expansionist and destructive formulas, and acceptance of Security Council Resolution 598 according to the sequence of its operative clauses.

A close examination of the powers granted to Rafsanjani in Khomeyni's message, clearly show that these are the same powers wanted and sought by Rafsanjani. These will provide him with the capability to impose total control and will enable him to reach the position of first man in the decisionmaking authority before or after Khomeyni's death. It is no secret that Rafsanjani's main partner in this arrangement is Ahmad Khomeyni, Rafsanjani's ally of past years.

But this new position and the powers granted to Rafsanjani by Khomeyni will ignite the conflict between him and Prime Minister Musavi, especially the conflict that has been going on between them for a long time. This conflict surfaced during the vote of confidence in Musavi's government. Khamene'i will surely play his part in this regard whenever the opportunity is right. He will create and escalate the confrontation between Rafsanjani and his allies on the one hand, and Musavi and his allies on the other.

When Khomeyni stresses in his letter to Rafsanjani the implementation of the military laws on those who did not joint the military service, he expresses a clear and desperate attempt to treat Iranian refusal to join and volunteer for the Iranian Army and Revolutionary Guard. This also clearly demonstrates the extent of the Iranian peoples' opposition to the war and their rejection of Khomeyni's aggressive and expansionist method, a method which brought them economic and social disasters and catastrophies.

It is also certain that transferring the post of commander in chief of the Iranian Armed Forces from Khomeyni to Rafsanjani is a frank admission of Khomeyni's practical impotence to play any direct role in this position or any other position. He would have abandoned these positions had he been a religious man or an imam, as he is described by those who believe in him. The charlatan's mania and his desire to practice authority made him take positions and powers whose resonsibilities he cannot directly carry out.

By this decision, Khomeyni expressed desire to hold others responsible for the failure for which he is responsible. There is no doubt that Khomeyni's mentality, abnormal political methods, and destructive ideas have brought Iran to the level of total chaos and destruction in which it is living now.

Khomeyni's decision also presents another important point. The Armed Forces and Revolutionary Guard in Iran have accepted Khomeyni as commander in chief due to the fact that he is the top man in the state and because of his religious position, hence there was no opposition and friction. But for a man like Rafsanjani to become commander in chief of the Armed Forces and Revolutionary Guard, the decision to appoint him will be met with strong reactions and will create friction inside the Iranian military establishment, especially since this establishment knows Rafsanjani and his role and inclinations.

Anyway, Khomeyni's decision is an exposed attempt to step down from the war and peace decisionmaking after bringing Iran down to this level of economic and political decay and comprehensive disintegration through charalatanism, war, and expansionism. This decision will not hide from the Iranian peoples that he was responsible, and is still mainly responsible, for the disasters and destruction that befall Iran and its peoples.

It remains for us to ask: Will Rafsanjani's keys open the doors of heaven for the Iranian peoples after Khomeyni's keys have failed to do so?

Finance Minister Returns From UAE Meetings

JN0706171888 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, June 7, INA—Iraqi Minister of Finance Mr. Hikmat 'Umar Mukhaylif returned here last night after leading the Iraqi side to the 5th joint committee meetings between Iraq and the United Arab Emirates that concluded in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

While visiting, the Iraqi minister signed the session's minutes on enhancing relations of bilateral cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, finance, arts, culture and information. The meeting was attended by representatives of the ministries of Trade, Industry and Minerals, Education, Transport and Communications.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities

Communique No 3,207

JN0806170388 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Communique No 3,207 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 June]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their combat activities last night and today as following:

1. Six of the aggressors were killed and one bulldozer [preceding word in English] and two infantry positions were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector. Five others were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the I Special Army Corps sector, the Allahu Akbar Forces.

2. One shovel [preceding word in English] and three various positions were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector. Seven of the scoundrels were killed and one double-barrel machinegun, one personnel shelter, and one observation post were destroyed in the III Army corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

3. One infantry position was destroyed and one enemy soldier was killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Two others were killed and one weapons emplacement was destroyed in the V Army Corps northern sector.

4. In the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, three of the scoundrels were killed and one infantry position was destroyed. In the VII Army Corps sector, one machinegun was destroyed and its crew killed and two ammunition dumps were blasted.

5. The criminal Iranian enemy shelled with long-range artillery the village of Darband-i Khan today. The enemy shelling injured civilians and damaged their property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 June 1988

Planes Hit 'Maritime Target'

JN0906054388 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Statement by a military spokesman dated 9 June]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In pursuit of our firm and legitimate right to tighten the siege on the enemy's oil exports, our proud hawks raided a medium-sized maritime target off the Iranian coast last night. After dealing it an accurate and effective blow, the hawks returned with their aircraft safely to base in God's care and protection.

[Dated] 9 June 1988

Iranian Bell-214 Downed

JN0906071588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Jun (INA)—The knights of the Army helicopter gunships spotted an Iranian Bell-214 helicopter and directed their incendiary shells at it at 0820 [0420 GMT] today.

A military spokesman has told INA that the Iranian helicopter crashed on the aggressors' positions opposite Iraqi units in the I Army Corps northern sector.

Shamir, Shevardnadze Meet; Differences Remain

TA0906165188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1608 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpts] A few minutes ago, the meeting between Shamir and Shevardnadze in New York ended. Our U.S. correspondent Shim'on Schiffer just phoned in this report:

[Schiffer] Good evening to you all from the office of the president of the Security Council, who hosted the meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. [passage omitted]

The prime minister told us that he had an extremely interesting conversation with the Soviet foreign minister. He described the meeting as very long—it lasted more than 2 hours—and exhausting. We discussed numerous issues, Shamir said, including the Middle East situation and the international conference. He added: It should come as no surprise to you that we did not agree on this latter issue. There were differences of opinion. Nevertheless, we parted by expressing the hope that we will both think about our positions.

The immediate practical issue about which the prime minister reported right after the session was that the Israeli consular delegation will depart for Moscow in mid-July and will begin working immediately. The question of whether it will be permitted to deal with the Jewish issue and issue exit visas to Jews will be finalized during the delegation's stay. The subject of the authority the delegation will have was discussed quite extensively. Minister Shevardnadze promised to discuss the matter and provide very detailed answers.

I must add that there is enormous interest in that meeting. Dozens of reporters and television crews are waiting here. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir appeared before the press here a few minutes ago, and his Soviet counterpart is scheduled to appear shortly to give his briefing. There will thus be two briefings; one by the Israeli side and the other by the Soviet side.

At this stage we can only say that the fact that the meeting took place [telephone line disconnected].

Shamir Rejects UN Guarantee of Peace Agreement

TA0906051088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has rejected a suggestion by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that the United Nations guarantee a Middle East peace agreement. The two met yesterday at UN headquarters. Reporter Jonathan Shachter says they did not discuss today's meeting between the premier and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

[Begin recording] [Shachter] Shamir spent 45 minutes with the secretary general. The discussions were wide-ranging, and the prime minister characterized them as very friendly and very interesting.

[Shamir] Well, we have discussed the situation in our area, the conflicts we have there, the Shultz initiative, the international conference, all these problems related to peace.

[Shachter] According to the prime minister's spokesman, Avi Pazner, the secretary general, who supports the Shultz peace initiative and an international conference, suggested that the United Nations provide guarantees to Israel following the establishment of a peace agreement between Israel and the Arab states. The prime minister expressed doubts about that idea, pointing to other such arrangements that had failed. He added that what is necessary is not guarantees by the superpowers, but direct agreements between Israel and the Arabs reached through direct negotiations and founded on the free will of both sides.

Nevertheless, the prime minister praised the activity of the UNDOF [UN Disengagement Observer Force] forces stationed along the Syrian border, saying they provide a good example of how the United Nations can contribute to peace and stability in the region. Shamir also had praise for the personal efforts of Perez de Cuellar in promoting world peace, calling them balanced.

One topic that the prime minister told me was not mentioned during the discussion: His meeting, scheduled for later today, with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. The two are expected to discuss bilateral issues, as well as Soviet Jewry and Moscow's desire for a possibly expanded role in the Middle East peace process. [end recording]

Peres: 'Tremendous Progress' in Soviet Positions

TA0806110888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Let us open with a report from the Knesset: Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says a major change has occurred in the Soviet attitude toward the United States and toward the Middle East conflict. Time is needed to adapt to changes, Shim'on Peres says, and calls for the incorporation of the Soviet Union in an international conference. Mr Peres answered two motions submitted to the Knesset agenda by Knesset Member [MK] Gad Yatziv of MAPAM, and MK Me'ir Wilner of HADASH [Democratic Movement for Peace and Equality]. His remarks are cited by our correspondent in the Knesset Hayim Zissowitz.

[Begin recording] [Zissowitz] Not often do we hear such an enthusiastic speech in defense of the USSR from an Israeli leader. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres today listed a lengthy series of changes in the Soviet position on human rights, the United States, and Israel—changes which signify tremendous progress. The Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Moscow and the agreements achieved only underline the change which had already taken place below the surface. The change in the Soviet positions is also reflected in its changed attitude toward the Middle East conflict. In the past it had been Moscow which, by supplying arms to the Arabs, fed the conflict here.

[Peres] The USSR in this new world, with relations as they stand now, and in its transition from a policy of confrontation—including armed confrontation or confrontation through the supply of arms—to a policy of a dialogue which relies mainly on the political aspect, is asking itself, as will everyone else: What are all these arms for?

[Zissowitz] The foreign minister has listed a series of changes in the Soviet attitude toward the Israeli-Arab conflict which qualify it to attend the international conference.

[Peres] First, the USSR stated that the political solution must also be acceptable to Israel and not only to the Arabs. Furthermore, for the first time and from the horse's mouth itself we heard that Israel's security needs are no less important than the Palestinians' nationalistic aspirations. The Soviet Union is not demanding that a Palestinian state be the only solution. It is not even demanding that the PLO be the sole representative. It says, in fact: Everything you agree on among yourselves regarding these two issues is acceptable to me. This is also the first time that the USSR is openly saying that it is against a coercive conference.

[Zissowitz] These remarks by Minister Peres were made in response to two motions submitted to the Knesset agenda by MK's Yatziv and Wilner in the wake of the Moscow summit. The two pointed to changes in the rules of the game and to a historic turning point, and Foreign Minister Peres, in fact, agreed, although his definitions are more moderate. He sees favorable changes in the Soviet attitude toward its Jews. All Prisoners of Zion have been released, and the number of exit visas given Jews has recently increased ten-fold. The Soviet Union has changed, the change is extensive, and even if the road is long, Minister Peres says, hope has emerged. [end recording]

In a debate on another motion submitted by MK 'Uzi Landau of the Likud on the Algiers summit, Mr Peres said there is no room for hysteria. This summit will raise anti-Israel rhetoric to new heights, but will be no more than another small stumbling block on the road to peace.

Leaders Comment on Algiers Summit, Husayn Speech

Peres on 'Extremist Verbiage'

TA0906062388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says that too much should not be made of the acclaim given to Yasir 'Arafat in Algiers. According to Peres, the PLO leader cannot put the ovations he received at the summit to practical use. Peres was in Tiberias last night and our correspondent Hayim Hecht spoke to him there.

[Begin recording] [Hecht] Shim'on Peres proposes analyzing the meaning of the speeches in Algiers after taking into account the pathos and extremist verbiage which is an integral part of any Arab summit. He believes that Husayn could afford to make the gallant gesture in his speeches that he is prepared to leave the political arena to 'Arafat. This is because the monarch knows that the PLO leader has no chance to bring about any momentum in the political process.

[Peres] Let's say it is 'Arafat's conference. So what? What can he do with this conference. What has this conference changed? In fact, all the talk about Yasir 'Arafat's increasing or declining influence is irrelevant. There is an intifada [uprising], but he did not initiate it and it is doubtful if he can lead it. Even if this conference praises Yasir 'Arafat, what will he do with it tomorrow morning.

[Hecht] Peres said: We have heard the extremist verbiage in Algiers, now we have to wait to see if there are any practical resolutions.

The foreign minister took very seriously the report that Moscow has informed the Syrian president that a solution to the Middle East will not be achieved through yet another military operation, but through a diplomatic effort. This might disappoint some people in Israel, but it is exactly what Gorbachev believes in: the demilitarization of foreign relations.

[Peres] This is because they ask themselves the following: We provided arms inexpensively and at low interest rates time after time and generation after generation, what has it got us? Where is the great wealth that the previous policy of being involved in the conflict instead of in seeking peace brought to the USSR? They are asking the right question.

[Hecht] Peres believes the new Soviet policy will increase its commitment to an international conference in our region. [end recording]

Shamir: 'Blow' to Shultz Plan

TA0906065588 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Jun 88 pp A1, 2

[Report by Ran Dagoni, Ilan Bakhar, Shefi Gabay, and Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Excerpts] "King Husayn's speech deals a heavy blow to the Shultz peace initiative," Prime Minister Shamir told MA'ARIV. "King Husayn did away with every clause in the Shultz plan, and his speech did not even mention negotiations with Israel. On the contrary, it contains a demand for a withdrawal from all the territories and the convening of an international conference."

Shamir emphasized that the speech encourages the uprising in the territories, which Husayn defines as a war. [passage omitted]

"I am not at all sure that Husayn's speech actually reflects his position," Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said. "Husayn did not reject the international conference, did not dissociate himself from the West Bank, and remained loyal to the values he has upheld." [passage omitted]

Husayn Said 'Serious Partner'

TA0806184588 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has noted that contrary to reports, King Husayn's address included the first positive statement about Secretary of State George Shultz' plan. Husayn is signaling that he is a serious partner to any future negotiations. This was the Foreign Ministry's reaction as reported to our correspondent Yig'al Goren.

Ex-Gaza Mayor on Husayn Stand

TA0906070488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] The former mayor of Gaza City, Rashad al-Shawwa, says any Arab consensus at the Arab League summit for an independent Palestinian state must be considered by Palestinians as a symbol of prestige, not as a practical achievement. In an interview with reporter Steve Rodan, Al-Shawwa said a Palestinian entity must be linked to Jordan. Reporter Rodan asked Al-Shawwa whether Jordan's King Husayn intends to sever ties with the Palestinians in the territories as reported in Algiers.

[Begin recording] [Al-Shawwa] I don't think King Husayn could walk away. He is too concerned in the Palestine affair. He stands for a pan-Arab movement, and he is defending the Gaza Strip and the West bank on the basis of them being an Arab problem. That is why he is trying to do his best. So I don't think he would leave.

I know he is tired of things the way they have been developing. There hasn't been a united stand, and whenever he thinks an agreement has been reached someone sort of stands up to say we don't agree on this, we don't agree on that. So he is frustrated, definitely, but I am sure the Arab cause, the Palestine cause, is too far entrenched in his heart and soul that he can't just walk away.

[Rodan] Where does Yasir 'Arafat fit in? As you know, for the first time there are specific calls and perhaps even suggestions for an independent Palestinian state as opposed to previous summits which only called for self-determination.

[Al-Shawwa] Well, I think the Palestinians' call for a Palestine state is—more than a realistic accomplishment—the prestige. It's the right they have in this land. They feel this is their land and they are entitled to have a state, but with things as they stand I think that if they do get a state ultimately they will be linked to Jordan. [end recording]

Jordanian Scientists' Visit to Symposium Canceled

TA0906054988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Energy Minister Moshe Shahal has disclosed that because of the uprising in the territories King Husayn canceled a visit to Israel of a delegation of Jordanian scientists. He told foreign correspondents at the energy conference in Tiberias that the Jordanian scientists were to have closed three deals related to Israeli energy technologies. Shahal also said that through a third party five preparatory meetings were held, but ultimately the visit fell through because of the intifada [uprising]. No dates are mentioned in the report. [passage omitted]

Gandhi Promises Improved Diplomatic Relations

TA0906044188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Indian President Rajiv Gandhi has promised to raise the level of diplomatic ties with Israel within the next week. Israel Radio's Washington correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says Gandhi promised this to the chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Morris Abram. Gandhi asked that the promise be kept secret.

Peres on Gandhi Remarks

TA0906065388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Telephone interview this morning with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Mikha Friedman—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Mikha Friedman] The Voice of Israel reported this morning, and you must have heard, that Rajiv Gandhi intends to raise the level of diplomatic relations between India and Israel. Did you know about this?

[Peres] Yes, of course. I think the release was probably premature.

[Friedman] Do you think this might sabotage the move?

[Peres] No, I am not afraid of sabotage, but I also know the limitations in this field. I do not share the hysterical descriptions about Israel's tough foreign affairs and the calls for demonstrations. Things are much deeper, more serious, and many things happen in the twilight zone; things are no just nblack or white. That is why I am not getting excited about the report.

[Friedman] When will the move take place?

[Peres] They will be limited, not full relations. It should have occurred a week ago, and could now take another 2 weeks. [passage omitted]

Tamir on Improvement in Ties

TA0906114788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Avraham Tamir, the Foreign Ministry director general, believes the improvement in relations with Israel promised by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will initially lead to the lifting of restrictions imposed on the Israeli representation in Bombay. He refused, however, to forecast whether India would appoint a representative in Israel.

Mr Tamir told our correspondent that Israel's activities in the Far East and the Pacific and its readiness to continue the peace process, have led to breakthroughs, particularly in trade links. In this regard he referred to the upcoming visit by the Japanese foreign minister.

In a meeting with the chairman of the Presidents' Conference of Jewish Organizations in the United States, Indian Prime Minister Gandhi promised he would raise the level of diplomatic relations between India and Israel in 2 weeks.

Tamir Returns From 'Secret' Visit to Morocco

TA0806124988 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Jun 88 pp 1, 17

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Excerpts] Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, recently paid a secret visit to Morocco and met with one of King Hassan's closest aides.

Tamir was accompanied by a senior non-Israeli official who also participated in the talks. Tamir arrived in Morocco after a stopover in Paris.

Following the secret visit, the Cairo correspondent of the Beirut daily AL-SAFIR, reported that the Moroccan monarch proposed hosting a summit in his palace composed of foreign ministers from Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. [passage omitted]

It has been learned that Tamir will soon be invited to Egypt for talks with its leaders.

The director general of the Foreign Ministry refused to either confirm or deny the visit to Morocco. Referring to the Cairo invitation, he said, "I will go to Egypt only when I have something to discuss there."

IDF Kills 3 'Terrorists' in S. Lebanon Clash

TA0806204088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Three terrorists were killed today by IDF fire north of the security zone. Our forces suffered no casualties. Our correspondents Karmela Menashe and Hayim Hecht report that an IDF unit was on a mission during the day on the border of the eastern sector of the security zone and north of it, trying to locate Katyusha launchers and terrorist centers. The unit identified a terrorist squad on one of the hills. The terrorists tried to escape when the soldiers opened fire at them. The bodies of three terrorists were found in searches conducted after the shooting. They were probably on their way to carry out a terrorist attack inside the security zone. The IDF force returned to base upon completing its mission.

A senior officer in the Northern Command said that the force involved was a small infantry unit on a routine mission on the border of the security zone.

Shomron, Rabin Comment on Al-Birah Mayor Stabbing

TA0806115388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 June 88

[Text] Chief of Staff Dan Shomron, referring to the attempted assassination of the Al-Birah mayor, said it is not the first time that this has happened. Our correspondent 'Eran Ben-Porat reports:

[Begin recording] [Shomron] I hope that this is not the start of a new phenomenon, and that the impact will be limited.

[Ben-Porat] Do you believe it is the start of something new?

[Shomron] No, I do not think so. It is not an exceptional event considering the political situation in the territories. Such things have occurred in the past, so I do not regard it as a change or a new phenomenon. [end recording]

The defense minister also reacted to the attempted assassination. Our correspondent 'Ezra Yanuv provides us with his remarks:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] I think it is more an act of despair than an attempt to exploit the existing violence in the territories. The perpetrators hope to make it tougher for the inhabitants of the territories and better for the extremists, who do not care about the fate of the people. They want to seek political objectives, even if it means harming the population in the territories.

[Yanuv] Do you think there will be an increase in violence in the territories during the Arab summit in Algiers or in its aftermath?

[Rabin] The summit opened yesterday and violence did not increase in either Gaza or Judaea and Samaria. On the contrary, there was a decline in violence yesterday compared to the end of last week. I prefer to wait and see what will happen at the summit and what the repercussions will be, and only then express an opinion. [end recording]

Al-Tawil To Continue in Post

TA0906054788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Al-Birah Mayor Hasan al-Tawil says he will not resign his post despite the stabbing attack on Tuesday. Al-Tawil said on Israel television that he is helping local Palestinians by serving as mayor of Al-Birah. The interview was conducted in Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital where Al-Tawil was transferred yesterday.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

IDF Fire Injures 1 in Balatah

TA0806162388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] A young resident of the Balatah refugee camp today was slightly injured by gunfire during disturbances at the camp.

A curfew was imposed on the Ramallah District village of Bayt 'Ur al-Tahta after a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli vehicle, wounding the driver.

'Serious' Incidents in W. Bank

TA0806180388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Report by Steve Rodan]

[Text] Compared to only 2 months ago, today's violence was relatively light, but the incidents were more serious than the mere stone throwing usually reported during the last few weeks.

The disturbances began early. This morning the army entered the village of Bayt Furik in the Nabulus region. The village was placed under curfew, and residents were arrested. As the army patrol was leaving the village, it came under attack by scores of residents wielding iron bars and throwing stones. Military sources said the patrol opened fire and wounded two people. No soldiers were injured. [passage omitted]

Arab sources report that a 17-year-old resident of the Farah refugee camp near Nabulus was shot in the neck. The report could not be confirmed by either the army spokesman or area hospitals. Also today, a resident of the village of Al-'Ayzariyah died in East Jerusalem's Al-Maqasid hospital. Arab sources said the man had been beaten severely in prison, and then released to the intervention of the International Red Cross. This assertion could not be confirmed. However, news of the man's death spread throughout his village, and tonight a firebomb was thrown at an Israeli vehicle outside Al-'Ayzariyah, on the road to Jericho. Police said there were no injuries or damage.

The Gaza Strip was reported fairly quiet. The Jabalyah refugee camp remained under curfew. Military sources said Arab laborers went to their jobs, and many stores in the Strip were opened.

'Terrorist Activity' Uncovered

TA0806204388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Security forces have recently uncovered an attempt by Judaea and Samaria residents in Kafr Qasim to organize terrorist activity. Our correspondent Ya'aqov Balselboim reports that they are inhabitants of Mazari' al-Nubani in the Nabulus District who work and live in Kafr Qasim. The police believe they were responsible for throwing five Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles near the village over the past few months. No link has been found yet between the villagers and the detainees.

Meanwhile, an Egged bus was stoned near the Shu'fat junction along the Jerusalem-Ramallah road this evening. One of the passengers was slightly injured and taken to the hospital.

2 IDF Officers Wounded

TA0906044988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Two Israeli officers were wounded early this morning by a fire bomb thrown at their jeep in Samaria. Military sources told reporter Rodan that an Army patrol entered the Arab village of Al-Janiyah in the Binyamin District and imposed a curfew. During the operation a fire bomb was thrown at a jeep. It struck the jeep and wounded two officers. They were taken to a hospital where their wounds were described as light. The Army is continuing its search around the village.

W. Bank Strike; Gaza Curfews

TA0906063988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpts] A general strike is under way in Judaea and Samaria today. The inhabitants are marking the 6-month anniversary of the uprising and the Arab summit in Algiers. [passage omitted

In the Gaza Strip, a curfew was imposed this morning on the Al-Burayj and Al-Nusayrat refugee camps. The Jabalyah refugee camp remains under curfew. Our correspondent, Moti Amir, reports that there were no outstanding incidents in the Gaza Strip this morning and workers left for their jobs in Israel.

Arab Shot by IDF Near Nabulus

TA0906104488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpts] In Sabastiyah, north of Nabulus, a young Arab man was killed this morning during the course of a violent demonstration. Military sources told the Voice of Israel that an Israel Army patrol encountered a barrier of stones on the outskirts of the village. These were being removed when youths started throwing stones at the soldiers. An officer noticed a young man about to throw a brick at the soldier nearby, and then shot at him. 'Imad Hasan Hawari, aged 17, was killed. [passage omitted]

There were several disturbances this morning in the West Bank. In Tulkarm a young Arab was wounded by Army gunfire during a violent demonstration. A curfew was later imposed on the town and the nearby refugee camp. Curfews were also enforced at Biddiya, next to Ramallah, and at 'Azzun, near Qalqilyah. [passage omitted]

Fatah Member's Home Demolished

TA0906113988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Security forces in the Gaza Strip today demolished a seven-room house belonging to 'Abd al-Kadir Salum of Ghazzah in the Khan Yunus area. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the man, who was a member of Fatah, was captured together with several other members of his group when he tried to burn down the town hall with fire bombs. He is also charged with threatening the head of the local council to make him resign.

Jerusalem Palestinian Released

TA0906145088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] The 6-month administrative detention order issued against Faysal al-Husayni, one of the more prominent Palestinian activists in East Jerusalem and head of the Institute for Arab Studies, expired today and was not renewed. Al-Husayni is the son of 'Abd al-Qadir al-Husayni, leader of the fedayeen gangs that were active during the Israeli War of Independence. He was put under administrative detention for security reasons. The authorities claimed that he was involved in subversive activity against Israel. Upon his release, he told our correspondent Arye Gus that he has had nothing to do with the uprising in the territories because it started while he was in jail. This is, nevertheless, one of the results of the Israeli conquest, he said.

Two weeks ago, Radwan Abu 'Ayyash, head of the Arab journalists association, was also released from administrative detention.

IDF 'Deviations' Detailed in Medical Report

TA0906093488 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Jun 88 pp 1, 4

[Report by Knesset reporter Dvora Getzler]

[Excerpts] A team of six Israeli doctors checking on casualties in the Gaza Strip from December to April has concluded that many were caused by deviations from IDF regulations.

The allegations are contained in an eight-page report by a team of six Israeli doctors organized by MK [Knesset member] 'Oded Zucker (Citizens Right Movement) to check into the medical situation in Gaza.

The report was submitted yesterday to Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino, Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Attorney-General Yosef Harish. The team of six investigating doctors had full cooperation from the IDF.

It asserts:

The use of tear gas in closed areas has almost certainly caused some 30 miscarriages.

There were significant differences in the number of injuries from area to area, depending on which IDF unit had been involved.

The IDF adopts unacceptable standards in Gaza. For instance, in many cases of death no post-mortem was ordered. Without post-mortems it becomes even more difficult to ascertain the truth, the report notes. Gaza medical staff have been forbidden by the military authorities to write on a child's death certificate that gassing was the cause of death.

The IDF does not reveal information about the types of tear-gas employed, although this would help in medical treatment.

Exposures to CS and CN gas [not further specified], the report notes, carries with it the risk of toxic effect and that risk rises when used in a closed area.

Infants, children and those suffering from heart or respiratory ailments may die if exposed to more than 10 minutes of CS gas. Both CS and CN can be dangerous to even healthy persons when the gas is not used in the open.

The report notes the need for proper training in the use of gas which should not be fired into the crowd, but in front of the demonstrators. The prompt rendering of first aid is essential, says the report. [passage omitted]

Also criticized is the manner in which the IDF has at times transferred wounded persons to Israeli hospitals, not for medical reasons, but for interrogation.

In one case the IDF overruled a hospital director who said the patient was not in a condition to be moved.

In another case, a man who needed an amputation was removed from the Al-Shifa' hospital, Gaza, at midnight allegedly for transfer to Ashqelon hospital. He was later returned to Al-Shifa' with cuts administered by a sharp instrument to the injured limb. These, he claimed, had been inflicted during interrogation.

Even where there is a need to interrogate suspects, medical ethics must be observed, the doctors say.

Local doctors are reluctant to report all cases of injury from bullets or gas for fear that they may endanger their patients.

One doctor, the report says, told the team: "If I report that a death was not due to a bullet or to exposure to gas, the PLO is angry. If I say it was, then the Israeli authorities are angry."

The report is signed by Dr. Uri Elmali'ah, Dr. Ralph Guggenheim, Dr. Ruhama Marton, Dr. Eliyahu Richter, Dr. Ruth Ladiray, and the coordinator Dorit Abramovitch.

TIMES Editorials Criticize Shultz Comments

On Palestinian Issue

JN0606060788 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 6 Jun 88 p 4

[Editorial: "The Missing American Component"]

[Text] Upon his arrival in Israel yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said that "the continued occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the frustration of Palestinian rights, is a dead end. To continue is an illusion."

He is correct, of course, and it is a pleasure to hear him say such forthright things about the 20-year-old occupation of Palestinian land and the 40-year-old denial of Palestinian national right. The question that comes to mind, however, is the following: If continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian land is a dead end and an illusion, why does the United States perpetually finance these two things? Why does the United States increasingly reward Israel for its dead end illusions with a seemingly endless array of economic and military grants, trade accords and strategic cooperation agreements?

The illusion, we would suggest, is both in Israeli policies and in the American government's willingness to acquiesce in those policies, meekly and endlessly. We reject the supposition—now operative in Washington, and articulated so clearly by Mr Shultz during this and previous visits to the area—that the United states rides into the region on a white horse with a workable peace plan that will bring goodness to all who participate in it.

One key reason why the American proposals have elicited some Arab interest—including ours—but no firm Arab commitments to join the suggested peace process is that the American mediator lacks the requisite credibility to promote confidence and to elicit practical participation. Mr Shultz' plan proposes a direct linkage between the transitional talks and the final status negotiations on Palestinian land and rights and on related issues of land and security of concern to Israel and the Arab states.

We would suggest a slightly different scenario to launch peace talks: The United States should engender linkages between what it says and what it does in the region. Specifically, if the United States feels that the occupation is an illusory dead end, it should announce a series of interlinked, consecutive steps by which continued Israeli occupation of Arab land and denial of Arab rights would trigger American responses in the form of suspended aid payments or curtailed military arms deliveries to Israel.

The full dynamic of stalemate does not start or end in the Holy Land, or in the Semitic family of Arabs and Israelis. It has a very strong American component as well, which Mr Shultz should act upon if he wants his message of peace and justice to fall upon cooperative Semitic ears.

On Arab Stand

JN0806132488 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Jun 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Stop the Offensive Preaching"]

[Text] Though confirmed admirers of constancy, we are nevertheless sad to note that United States Secretary of State George Shultz has ended his latest Mideast diplomatic mission on the same note on which he started it four days ago: Misdirected, unsubstantiated, arrogant, self-congratulatory and highly offensive preaching.

His warning in Cairo Tuesday that unless Arabs and Israelis "shed their illusions" the region would be engulfed with extremism, arms build-ups and intense hatred strikes us as a fresh display of two factors which have caused us—and the majority of other Arabs—to view the Shultz initiative with skepticism:

The American government's refusal to accept its share of the responsibility for the cycle of violence in the region, and the presumption that the United States can step into the region and prod the naughty brawlers to make peace.

Those of us who happen to live around here, rather than fly in for occasional visits, would suggest to Mr Shultz that the Middle East has been engulfed in extremism, violence and hatred for about 40 years—or since the establishment of the state of Israel and the national catastrophe of the Palestinians. A major cause of regional turbulence and sustained human suffering is the American determination to maintain Israel as the dominant regional fact, while the Arabs and their rights are dealt with in relation to their attitude to Israel. This is inequity and injustice of the highest order—and its result is an Arab determination to fight back, and to achieve justice in the end.

The United States plays a central role in maintaining the injustice, in fueling the hatred and in providing the arms for the military build-up. For the Amercian secretary of state to warn against trends which his country has nurtured and guaranteed for several centuries is a very sad display of all that is bad in America, of all that is naive, unrealistic, presumptuous and mortally effete. This is also, we believe, an aberration of American principles and of the otherwise commendable and humane behaviour of the American people.

Mr Shultz also says he finds universal interest in finding a path to peace, and hopes to return to the area. He's welcome to do so, and he will find the Arabs always willing to meet and talk. The imperatives of justice and peace are overwhelming. We will explore any path to this end. But Mr Shultz should not confuse our willingness to keep talking with a desire to submit to American-Israeli demands at any cost; nor should he see see himself as the only mediator in town, or his plan as the only game in town.

Four trips and few results should cause him to stop the preaching show; tone down the moralistic mumbo-jumbo; get off his high horse; inject more equity into his proposals; stop being so partial to Israeli and Zionist positions; bring his great country to the defence of Palestinian and Israeli rights, land for peace and other key issues; and then return to the region with more credibility; more stature, more honour and more hope of a breakthrough. We look forward to his next visit with much anticipation—as, we are sure, do the Palestinians and Lebanese and other Arabs who are jailed, or detained in their thousands, or have had their homes demolished, or who have been deported from their homeland, or who have been maimed or killed by an Israeli army that is financed and supplied by the country which Mr Shultz represents.

Memorandum Addresses Palestinian Question

JN0706101088 Amman AL-QUDS in Arabic
6 Jun 88 p 1

[Excerpts] Amman, (AL-BURAQ)—Prior to the convocation of the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers under the slogan of supporting the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, and due to crucial circumstances of the Palestine question, several Palestinian thinkers and functionaries held an expanded popular meeting. The conferees discussed all aspects of the current situation in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

At the end of the meeting, it was decided to prepare a popular Palestinian memorandum to present to the Arab kings, presidents, and amirs, to the Islamic and foreign governments, particularly the UN Security Council five permanent member states, and to all international organizations and bodies. Through this memorandum, the popular Palestinian bodies and trade unions believe they should say their word frankly and clearly to help the Arab leaders at their extraordinary summit and to shed a new light on the Palestinian people's stand on the national and Arab levels.

During this meeting, popular delegations were elected to present copies of this memorandum and to explain its contents to leaders of the Arab and foreign states and governments through their embassies and representatives. The memorandum carried tens of thousands of signatures of various sectors and representatives of our Palestinian people, doctors, lawyers, engineers, university professors, writers, journalists, city dignitaries, villages, refugee camps, tribal chiefs, school teachers and of trade, peasant, women's, and merchants unions and all popular committees and functionaries. Signatures continue to be collected. Arab and foreign embassies will be provided with copies of these signatures. [passage omitted]

The following is the text of the memorandum:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Deeply concerned with the lessons and results of the march of the national Palestinian struggle; in harmony with our pan-Arab affiliation and present realities of Arab and international situations so our people shall not remain prisoners of contradictions that prevent them from using available opportunities and from implementing them to serve our national cause; and to remove all contradictions in the Palestinian stand and any other stands that do not represent the true opinion of our people; we declare to the Arab, Islamic, and foreign governments, to the UN Security Council five permanent member states, to all regional and international organizations, and to the entire international community, that we strongly and resolutely adhere to the following political principles:

First, we reiterate the inevitable and fateful relationship between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples, which has been interwoven in the various historic, demographic, political, economic, and social walks of life in a way that cannot be ignored or bypassed.

Second, the sound way to settle the Arab-Israeli dispute in the Middle East is to convene an international conference under UN auspices with the presence of the five UN Security Council permanent member states as well as all parties concerned, including the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

Third, the problem of the Palestinian representation in the international Middle East peace conference will be solved in the following way:

A: The UN secretary general will extend an invitation to the PLO in the same manner as he invites other parties. The PLO must announce its desire to attend the conference according to the basis on which the UN secretary general invites all parties concerned to attend the conference.

B: The PLO will name its delegation which will join the Jordanian delegation in one delegation—the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. Thus the Palestinian people's representation in the international conference for peace in the Middle East is achieved.

Fourth, the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied land are one indivisible entity. The Palestinian people shall unite in their national identity with their brethren, the Jordanian people in their national identity as well, within a framework combining the states of Jordan and Palestine in one unionist state constituting a prelude to a comprehensive Arab unity.

The establishment of unity between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples is the practical formula and solid basis on which a final solution to the issue of Palestinian destiny must be built. This is due to the special relationship between the two peoples—a relationship deeply rooted in history and in various walks of life.

Fifth, the uprising of our kinfolk in the occupied territory and the struggle of our people must achieve their aspired objectives. Our people have suffered for a long time and are on the verge of despair due to the wasting of opportunities.

Therefore, the Palestinian people are now in dire need of wisdom and a sense of reality to deal with their national issues so as not to lose their rights, struggle, and sacrifices in the current international and Arab circumstances to an enemy that relishes occupation and expansion. The removal of Israeli occupation from the Arab land must continue to top the interests of the leaders of our Arab nation.

Therefore, a distinction must be drawn between the enemy's occupation of our Arab land and our differences over the situation after liberation.

Based on the above, we sign this memorandum, hoping that the world will answer these Palestinians' requests which stem from justice, logic, and reality.

Al-Rifa'i Chairs Economic Committee Meeting

JN0506202888 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i this morning chaired at the Prime Ministry a meeting of the special committee affiliated to the economic advisory council and charged with studying foreign currency measures. The meeting reviewed the Kingdom's monetary status and assured itself of its soundness and stability as well as the Jordanian dinar's convertibility to any foreign currency.

The committee discussed the proposed draft of foreign exchange control regulations to increase the Kingdom's revenue from the foreign currencies and its foreign currency reserve and to meet currency requirements of the national economy and general public.

It was decided that the committee will follow up discussion of this draft before it is finalized, having approved the broad outline of these regulations for their notable simplification and flexibility concerning foreign currency exchanges while at the same time streamlining the relationship between the Central Bank and the banking system in the interests of simplification and flexibility.

One of the most important prompt measures to be adopted by the Central Bank is to announce daily as of tomorrow, Monday 6 June 1988, its mandatory exchange rates of foreign currencies.

Another measure calls for allowing all banks and financial firms and their branches to conduct foreign currency exchanges as an integral part of their operation.

Lebanese Front Satisfied With Shultz Remarks

NC0806134088 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The Lebanese Front today expressed satisfaction with recent statements about Lebanon by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The Front stressed that Arab responsibility toward Lebanon is basic. At its weekly meeting today the Front discussed the issue of the meat impounded last week because it was unfit for human consumption.

[Begin unidentified official recording] 1. The conferees discussed chemical waste and contaminated meat, and the Lebanese Front reviewed measures taken against the importers and regarding the disposal of the goods. The Front is satisfied with these measures and stresses the need to follow up on them, taking all necessary measures to prevent entry of any contaminated or polluted commodities to the free areas.

2. The conferees expressed their satisfaction with the stand of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz on the need for holding Lebanese presidential elections on time and discarding all the conditions and obstacles Syria has raised. The Front believes this stand ensures the continuation of the legitimate Lebanese authority on the international level, legitimacy that confronts attempts to impose foreign hegemony on the homeland.

3. The conferees reflected on the Algiers summit. They believe Arab responsibility is basic regarding what has happened and is happening in Lebanon, which has paid dearly for the eruption of Arab disputes on its territory. Consequently, the Arabs must fully shoulder their responsibility toward Lebanon, it being an urgent issue high on the list of priorities. [end recording]

Inter-Palestinian Fighting in Camp Continues

NC0806165188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Clashes involving the use of machineguns and rockets broke out between elements loyal to 'Arafat and the dissidents in Burj al-Barajinah camp this evening. Tension began to worsen in the camp at 1700.

It has just been reported that the exchange of artillery shelling between the pro-'Arafat elements and the dissidents in Burj al-Barajinah has intensified. The camp is being subjected to artillery shelling from the mountain.

1 Killed, 3 Wounded

NC0806211788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The clashes which broke out in Burj al-Barajinah between pro-Yasir 'Arafat gunmen and pro-Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] dissidents this evening led to the death of one Palestinian and the wounding of three others.

A cease-fire agreement, which was to come into effect at 1945 eased the intensity of the clashes. However, high tension continues to prevail in the camp, where intermittent gunfire is still being exchanged.

Israeli Forces Lift Sieges on Yuhmur, Arnun

NC0806124688 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The Israeli forces and the South Lebanese Army lifted the seiges on Yuhmur and Arnun this morning.

Clashes, Tension Continue in Sidon Area

NC0806190088 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Clashes involving machineguns and rockets are taking place on the Lib'a-Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir combat lines to the east of Sidon between the South Lebanese Army and gunmen of extremist Islamic organizations.

According to security reports, Israeli helicopters dropped flares over Al-Nabatiyah at approximately 2000 today. Earlier today, Israeli warplanes flew over Sidon and the nearby camps in a series of reconnaissance missions.

Meanwhile, Israeli gunboats have been seen off the Sidon coast.

Ja'ja' Reportedly Wounded in 12 May Bombing

NC0806173088 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] According to reliable reports from East Beirut, Lebanese Forces Commander Samir Ja'ja' was wounded in an attempt on his life in Mistata near Jubayl on 12 May. At the time, the Lebanese Forces had claimed that the incident had no significance and that Ja'ja' was not the target because he was not in Mistata, but in Beirut.

Since the bombing occurred, however, wide-scale arrests have been made within the ranks of the militia of the Lebanese Forces, particularly within the personal security services of Samir Ja'ja'. Cross-examinations and trials have been taking place ever since in a hysterical mood. It is likely that a certain Tanyus Shlita from Kafr 'Ubaydah and another person from the same town will receive death sentences for their alleged involvement in the bombing.

Paper Urges Arab Solidarity Against U.S. Plans

JN0506141388 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Jun 88

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Summit for Confronting Challenges," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says: The Palestinian Arab people's brave uprising is entering its 7th month, the Arabs are approaching the emergency summit in Algiers, and the U.S. secretary of state is continuing his fourth tour of the region. The Arabs are called upon to create an effective solidarity in this critical phase in the history of their conflict with the Zionist enemy. This solidarity must channel all Arab resources and efforts to serve the battle of destiny.

It must also consolidate a single Arab stand against U.S. conspiratorial plans to settle the Palestine question according to separate deals, such as the Camp David accords—which have only contained Egypt, excluding it from the Arab battle against the Zionist enemy, and in fact placing it in the enemy camp against the Arab nation and turning it into a forward base for U.S. imperialism.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Regardless of Shultz' aim during his fourth tour to split the Arab stand before the Algiers summit, the uprising that has confused the United States and Israel must serve as the base for a real, qualitative Arab change toward ending the Camp David deal. The United States and Israel still present this deal as an example for any settlement with the Arabs, and therefore create an Arab solidarity whose aim is to use all the Arab weight in the battle of destiny against the Zionist enemy.

Article Scores Aims of Shultz' Mideast Tour

PM0806143188 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 27 May 88 p2

[Riyad Mahmud article: "Aims of the Shultz Tour"]

[Text] It is now universally known that whenever the U.S. Administration announces that one of its officials intends to tour any part of the world, the situation in that part erupts and more blood of innocent peaceful people is shed as U.S. allies and agents commit more inhuman and bestial crimes against the nations included in U.S. aggressive designs. One could even say that regional eruptions and excessive barbaric crimes before hegemony terms are dictated have become an official U.S. policy.

That policy is demonstrated, in its ugliest form, in the Middle East where Israel is committing more and more savage crimes and massacres to coincide with the U.S. Administration's announcement of a visit by one of its officials.

As the U.S. Administration was announcing George Shultz' new tour of the region, Israel was committing a series of barbaric aggressions against southern Lebanon and against the popular revolution in the occupied Arab territories.

It is against this background that one wonders about the aims of the Shultz tour of the region at this particular time. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has stated that the Shultz visit would bring nothing new, that there was nothing new in the Shultz plan for the settlement of the Middle East question, and that the U.S. Administration would not pressure Israel into accepting what it does not want. So, what is Shultz' aim?

The main objectives of the visit can be summed up in the following three points:

1. To back Israel and encourage it to continue its aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and against the entire Arab nation.

2. To confirm that the United States stands by its strategic ally in times of crisis and difficulty.

3. To abort and absorb any unified Arab stand against Israel, now that the idea of an Arab summit conference solely to discuss ways of supporting the popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories has materialized.

These objectives provide the explanation for Shultz' new tour. Particularly as the popular uprising in the occupied homeland and the national resistance in southern Lebanon have—by admission of the U.S. Administration itself—placed Zionist authorities in a difficult and embarrassing position, especially after the failure of all Zionist attempts to quell the uprising and destroy the resistance in southern Lebanon. This matter has made it necessary for the U.S. Administration to intervene directly in the region's events.

Finally, it must be said that history cannot be turned back and that rights must be restored to their owners regardless of whether or not Shultz embarks on one or even a thousand tours, because resistance against the aggressors will continue until they are defeated and our rights regained from them.

Briefs

Departing Jordaninan Ambassador

People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah today received 'Ali Khurays, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus. The ambassador came to bid him farwell at the end of his assignment as his country's ambassador in Damascus. [Excerpt] [*JN0206121988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Jun 88*]

Afghanistan

Najibullah, Shevardnadze Hold Talks in New York

LD0906083588 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0509 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] New York, June 8, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, met here with Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR. The meeting was attended by 'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of Afghanistan.

Sharing impressions of the work of the third special disarmament session of the U.N. General Assembly, they pointed out that the results of the talks in Moscow between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan had made a great positive impact on the atmosphere of the session and, in general, on a political frame of mind of its participants.

Najibullah and Shevardnadze expressed satisfaction over the active cooperation at the session between the Soviet and Afghan delegations which consistenty and purposefully work for ensuring the successful work of the session.

Participants in the conversation discussed details of the coordinated policy of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan with regard to further joint steps aimed at the realization of the Geneva accords on a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, proceeding from the talks between Mikhail Gorabchev and Najibullah in Moscow on June 4.

It was pointed out that Islamabad's policy aimed at undermining the Geneva accords upsets the balance of commitments of the sides and is fraught with dangerous consequences for the Afghan settlement and the stabilization of the situation in that part of the world in general. Participants in the conversation expressed hope that a realistic attitude, common sense and a feeling of responsibility would get an upper hand in the approach of the Pakistani side to this problem, which would permit to quickly undo this tangle of regional problems and would facilitate the way to national accords and peace in Afghanistan.

The sides reaffirmed a positive assessment of the efforts exerted by the UN secretary general and his personal representative for concluding the Geneva accords and pointed out the role plkayed by the UN in the settlement of regional conflicts.

During the meeting they discussed as well some questions connected with Soviet-Afghan cooperation in various spheres, as well as other international problems of mutual interest.

Najibullah Holds UN News Conference 8 Jun

LD0906083988 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0427 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] New York, June 8, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, who is currently attending the third U.N. special session on disarmament, held a press conference on Wednesday. He answered numerous questions of newsmen concerning the situation in Afghanistan and around it, the course of and prospects for implementing the Geneva accords.

Representatives of a number of Western mass media were trying to call in question Najibullah's statement at the special session that a quarter of the limited contingent of Soviet troops has been withdrawn from Afghanistan by now. According to some information, one of the newsmen claimed, only 10,000 have been withdrawn from Afghanistan. By the time of my departure for New York, the president said, that figure had reached 34,000 which is more than a quarter of the whole contingent.

At the same time, he emphasised that it would be a mistake to regard the Geneva accords only from the view point of the state of things with the withdrawal of the Soviet troops. Unconditional observance of all aspects of these accords is necessary, including an end to the arms supplies and the training of extremist opposition groups.

Najibullah noted that in that respect the actions by the Pakistani authorities are in conflict with the Geneva accords. Speaking on the possible retaliatory measures in this connection, he stressed that the question might be raised of re-examining the time-table for the return home of the Soviet troops.

The president was also asked whether the USA was continuing arms supplies to opposition. We expect that the USA, which appeared as one of the guarantors of the accords on Afghanistan, will not at the same time violate these agreements, he replied.

Many newsmen were interested to know, as one of the questions ran, what were the "chances for the survival of the current Kabul government". Najibullah expressed confidence that the government Armed Forces are capable of repelling encroachments of extremists on the independence and sovereignty of the Republic.

He categorically rejected the assumption that he would have to relinquish the office of the president for normalising the situation. I have been elected president in a legal manner in the spirit of our country's traditions by the Loya Jirgah [Grand Assembly] and I intend to respect the will of the people.

The president said he would go to Havana from New York.

Najibullah Emphasizes Geneva Accords in Interview

LD0906115988 Moscow TASS in English 1128 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] New York June 9 TASS—"Implementation of the Geneva accords would lead to normalization inside Afghanistan," President Najibullah of the Republic of Afghanistan has said.

Najibullah told CNN on Wednesday that in the case the accords were broken, his country would consider "a reaction warranted by the situation".

The Afghan leader said he had discussed observance of the Geneva accords with U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar and his special envoy Diego Cordovez.

"I think that whoever is defending the slogan of war will never be successful," the president emphasized, adding that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan were able to defend the Afghan people's sovereignty.

Sharq Addresses Legislature, Names Cabinet

LD0806204388 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Speech by Prime Minister-Designate Muhammad Hasan Sharq to the National Assembly in Kabul on 7 June—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Esteemed Dr Abawi, chairman of the Wolasi Jirgah [House of Representatives], and esteemed delegates of the Meli Shura [National Assembly] of the Republic of Afghanistan:

You, the elected delegates of the brave and proud nation of Afghanistan, are aware that His Excellency Dr Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, by a presidential decree dated 26 May 1988, has designated me to form a cabinet and to introduce the members to you, esteemed delegates, for a vote of confidence.

Allow me to express, on behalf of the proposed delegation for the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, my thanks and appreciation to the leadership authority of the country for their formidable confidence.

I and the members of the designated government are fully aware of the formidable responsibility with which we are entrusted. We know that under the present circumstances in our country the successful execution of this formidable duty is confronted with difficulties and obstacles.

You are aware that the destructive flames of the imposed war on the innocent people of Afghanistan still threaten to annihilate the (?normal) life of this persecuted nation, God-loving and freedom-loving Afghanistan.

You know well that this destructive war has brought ruin to our country, filled it with the graves of our beloved ones, drenched it with blood and a river of tears of orphans and widows, and cut a formidable portion of our united body and forced them to wander to foreign countries.

Esteemed delegates and elected representatives of the persecuted Afghan people:

I know a large number of you very well. Allow me to earnestly tell you that my acceptance of this formidable responsibility is not and will not be for the sake of quenching any ambitious feelings or for obtaining the position of prime minister in the bloody trench of our compatriots.

I and every member of the designated government have accepted the execution of this formidable duty mostly for the sake of fulfilling one sacred aspiration—self-sacrifice in order to implement national reconciliation and end the war and fratricide.

My colleagues and I have come to believe that the country's leadership, as the initiator and organizer of the policy of national reconciliation, has devoted itself earnestly and relentlessly to implementing this humane policy. We regard it as the only principled way to get rid of war. We regard it as a great sin to refuse to cooperation in realizing this sacred aspiration. Because of this, today we are facing the representatives of the people of Afghanistan for a vote of confidence with the aim of finding a source of hope for the war-affected people of the homeland.

We regard reconciliation between various opposing sides of the united Afghan people as a vehicle for the best success of our government and we will not spare any effort to achieve this.

In consideration of its coalition nature, the government has managed to include in its composition representatives of all the nationalities of Afghan society, and it declares that it welcomes all of the discontented brothers, the leaders and members of organizations and opposition parties inside and outside the country to participate in this sacred task. I hope that those compatriots who do not dissociate their destiny from that of all the people of this misery-stricken land, will say yes to this earnest call of ours and accomplish their Afghan mission for the joint service of the country and the people.

We believe that with the blessing of God and faith in the powerful energy of the people, the present difficulties can only be eliminated by implementing the policy of national reconciliation.

Esteemed delegates of the Meli Shura and dear compatriots.

The members of the designated government and I will try, within our legal authority, to follow the first stage carefully and find effective ways to implement the policy of national reconciliation and carefully apply the Geneva accords with the help of God and your efforts, you the representatives of the people.

By implementing the above measures we hope that the ground will be prepared for the nationwide restoration of peace and tranquility which is the immediate need for the life of our people, so that our people can with peaceful minds engage in the reconstruction of the homeland and repair the damage caused by the war. It is our belief that this is the best and the shortest way to put the country on a course of progress and development.

Ten years of aimless war have deprived our compatriots of work and life and made idle most of the country's capable young people, those who are able to work and to construct. A large number of educational institutions, schools, religious teaching schools, and mosques have been destroyed, and industrial and productive institutions have laid idle. Agricultural land has been barren and the people's and the government's incomes have seriously decreased. The war has invaded everyone's homes and turned them into places of mourning, full of fear and threat. There is no Afghan family without a martyr, someone disabled, or a refugee.

In our view, to remedy all this destruction and damage caused by the war the most immediate duty is to create an atmosphere of security and calmness and to prepare the ground for people's work and activities aimed at coexistence in the country.

In order to fulfill this aspiration the government must pay serious attention to the following:

In the area of consolidating national sovereignty, the government of the Republic of Afghanistan will regard as its national duty the task of defending and safeguarding the national independence and territorial integrity of the country, as noted in Article 4 of the Constitution.

The consolidation of national sovereignty and the defense of political independence demands that we strengthen the combat capability and defense capability of the country's armed forces. The government regards it as its duty to strengthen the armed forces to defend and safeguard our territorial integrity and national sovereignty. It must also look for effective ways to increase political awareness among people, so that everyone will knowingly become a defender of the country's sovereignty.

In order to secure the freedoms contained in the Constitution, the people's will must be valued and the work system and socioeconomic and political activities must be soundly and effectively organized with the people's interests and demands.

In order to secure the rights and freedoms contained in the constitution, the government will nondiscriminatorily prepare the groundwork for the activities of political parties and organizatiions. This will be done within the limits of independence and national sovereignty without damaging the people's interests or opposing the Constitution or the sacred principles of Islam.

In the economic sphere, despite the fact that our country has a good climate, rich natural resources, and trustworthy and reliable manpower, due to various factors over a long period of time, particularly over the past 10 years of war, it unfortunately has not been able to achieve sufficient development and evolution.

There is no relation between per capita income and consumer goods prices. In view of shortages in state income and production, the designated government has many problems ahead of it. In the past, agricultural production was the highest of the country's production figures, and industrial production also made up part of the state's income.

However, because of the previously noted factors, the country's largest economic and financial source is now grants-in-aid and favorable loans from friendly countries. This aid on the whole is certainly not enough to alleviate the problems of a backward and war-torn country like Afghanistan. Afghanistan currently has limited trade and economic relations with other countries, which does not meet our needs. Private and mixed investments have taken steps toward rehabilitation, but these measures are not sufficient. Obviously the responsibility for all these factors and shortcomings rests with the war and those who imposed it on our country.

With the implementation of the national reconciliation policy and the precise observance of the Geneva agreements, which can halt the main causes of war and clashes, the reparation of all the backwardness and damage will hopefully be made easier.

Now we not only need to correct the past mistakes with the quick application of development programs for agriculture, water, and land, but we should also make efforts to make our country agriculturally self-sufficient.

On the other hand, it is one of the government's fundamental duties to attract private capital and to use it rationally to enhance the level of mixed investment, to support private entrepreneurs, and to encourage investment in order to industrialize the country.

Because our country has a diverse climate and geography, our farmers need material support such as chemical fertilizers, seeds for sowing, agricultural machinery and equipment, and financial assistance. Our investors need useful methods and effective guidance. The government will search for ways to effectively guide industrialization and increase production and will put them into practice.

We expect to ensure the basic development of agriculture, industry, and technology through ensuring peace and calm—the pivots of success—in the country.

In the area of social services and improving social welfare, a considerable change can be seen in the people's living and cultural standards. They eagerly participate in social affairs and hope that ways to enhance social culture will be found.

It must be said with great regret that a large number of children and young people are deprived of education because the warmongers have destroyed and burned down schools and educational establishments. Illiteracy is increasing because of the unfavorable conditions in most provinces and because the reconstruction and repair of schools is not possible. It is feared that the data on illiteracy in our country will loom large in the statistics of UNESCO and other international organizations.

Health care, preventive medicine, curative medicine, the prevention of fatal diseases, and the standard of medical services in the country are unsatisfactory and low. Health centers and medical services do not exist in some districts or even in provincial capitals. Sick people who live in remote areas and areas with difficult communications have no choice but to submit to death. There are many young doctors in the country who are not ready to work in the districts.

People who have low incomes compared with high prices are not happy with the competition between markets and government stores and the lack of action against price increases. Consumer goods prices go up sharply and no responsible source takes any action against it. There is evidence that state vendors have become corrupt and support those who are involved in price increases. Instead of offering goods for sale in the competitive market, they sell them on the black market and thereby reduce the effectiveness of the government's social activities.

There is a great demand for housing. This is a major problem for our homeless compatriots in Kabul and other provinces.

I hope that with the help of God the Almighty, the cooperation of your respected representatives, and with the support and guidance of his excellency, the president, Esteemed Najibullah, we will be able to develop and rehabilitate educational institutions, prevent the price increases, make per capita income proportionate to expenses, improve cooperatives and state consumer goods stores and housing management, provide apartments and justly distribute apartments and plots, make the provision of a useful and good medical service universal, and provide services that will satisfy you, the representatives, and meet the needs of the people.

We are aware that our success in the provision of social services depends on all-round peace and security and the financial and technical capability of the state. We believe that you and the people of dear Afghanistan will help us in ensuring social services for our country and for our compatriots.

As for solving the nationality question, Afghanistan is a country where different tribes, clans and nationalities live. History testifies that common historic and cultural relations, kinships, and pride have brought these different nationalities, tribes, and clans together. Most important of all is the defense of sovereignty, independence, and the national interests of the country which have created common ground for their connections and solidarity.

Therefore, the government, in line with Article 13 of the Constitution, will make efforts for the just solution of the nationality question and the balanced development of the culture of our fraternal nationalities, the protection of their pride, and the raising of their standard of living. They will be provided with balanced development in health care and all social services.

The government considers it its duty to make social progress plans for different nationalities in accordance with their population, to ensure their welfare and their material and spiritual needs are met.

National sovereignty, which is manifested in everyone's will and is reflected in the interests of all the country's citizens, should consolidate the development and progress of the country in everyone's interests through fundamental and constructive means. Sufficient material and spiritual bases must be found to attract the support of all compatriots.

In the field of domestic policy, the government is not and will not be monopolized by any political party or organization, in line with national reconciliation. By the same token, the activities of all political parties, which come into being in accordance with Article 5 of the Constitution, are permitted and the government will support and assist their peaceful assistance.

Similarly, members of political parties and organizations will have the same rights and obligations as other citizens of the country.

Ensuring a balanced progressive policy on culture and social services in order to provide for the introduction of welfare for all compatriots is a duty and a responsibility of the government. This must be done taking into account the present conditions and with secure all-round peace and calm in the country.

It is the duty of each member of the government in appointing cadres, to carefully consider their effectiveness, expertise, talent, and interests, and the government will resolutely campaign against corruption, bribery, nepotism, prejudice, and favoritism to self-interested people.

Administration and government employees are subject to reviews, purges, and reform from the point of view of their work division, methods of work and actions. The government should prevent red tape and intervention in the administrative system of the country, which inconveniences people and wastes time and energy.

Government positions are equally available to all people whether they are party members or not on the grounds of their ability and talent, without discrimination and prejudice. The government supports and encourages capable government employees, men and women, and gives them the opportunity for promotion. No one can have a job without experience and ability. Every government employee is responsible for the duties in his jurisdiction which are conferred on him by laws and regulations. We hope that with the deliberation and attention of government members, the implementation of this policy will satisfy the people and, particularly, you respected representatives, and the country's presidency.

As for foreign policy, in accordance with Chapter 13 of the Constitution, Afghanistan is a nonaligned country and one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement, and struggles along with others who fight for peace and peaceful coexistance. We support the UN Charter, resolutions, and activities for the solution of regional and international disputes and back the the right of self-determination and the righteous struggle of all nations in line with the UN Charter and the declaration on human rights.

At this moment, we consider the struggle of our continent and the region's people who are fighting for their national and humanitarian rights, like the Pashtun and Baluchi people, whose history is full of brave struggles.

The government regards the policy of nonalignment the highlight of our foreign policy and has reflected it at an international level. It believes that it is ready to have political, economic, and cultural relations with all countries, regardless of their social and political systems, based on the principle of equal rights, mutual respect for one another's independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity and the principle of non-interference in each other's internal affairs and not resorting to force, and the condemnation of all types of aggression and intervention.

On the basis of its foreign policy the government-designate is prepared to agree to have relations with other countries on the grounds of international norms and principles because it is our heartfelt desire to live in peace and have friendly relations based on mutual respect and cooperation with all peoples of the world, particularly with Islamic and neighboring countries.

On the basis of good-neighborliness and historic backgrounds, we assert that or good-neighborly relations and friendship with the Soviet Union are stable.

Historic friendship and considerable common interests have ensured our friendship with India.

For a long time our relations with Iran were good, but over the past several months, our relations with this Muslim neighbor of ours have become dark, due partly to interference in our internal affairs and partly to misunderstandings by the Government of Iran. Now that the Geneva agreements have been signed, we hope that Iran will reconsider its relations with our country. For our part we should try to clear up the misunderstanding and establish good relations with this Islamic and neighborly country.

Our country has always wanted good relations with Pakistan and has always tried to establish good and normal relations with that country. Regrettably, however, the Government of Pakistan is arming and equipping the opposition and interfering in our internal affairs, which has led to the bleak relations between our countries. We hope that Pakistan will observe the Geneva agreements, which have been signed through the mediation of the UN secretary general's representative and are guaranteed by the USSR and the United States, as well as the Governments of Afghanistan and the Pakistan, and create good and fruitful ground for good relations and cooperation between the two Islamic countries.

Similarly, we want to develop and establish good and friendly relations with the People's Republic of China.

Many spiritual links connect us to the Arab and Islamic countries.

We will cooperate closely with the Third World countries to ensure peace and to struggle against colonialism, in whatever shape it may take, and against apartheid.

While we want to have friendly relations with all countries, we are grateful to the Government of the United States for signing the Geneva agreements and accepting noninterference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and we hope it will carry out what it has agreed to and signed so that the catastrophy of the destructive war in Afghanistan may end.

From the bottom of our hearts we also thank the secretary general of the United Nations and his personal envoy, and Prince (Sadruddin Agha Khan), who is the coordinator of UN humanitarian aid in Afghanistan, and his other aides.

In accordance with our foreign policy, we accept the condemnation of war and the implementation of the peace policy all over the world and want to see an end to the Iran-Iraq war. We support the righteous cause of the Palestinian people and condemn apartheid, segregation, and imperialism, and back the struggle of nations for democracy, independence, and territorial integrity.

We support the reduction of nuclear arms and their gradual annihilation in the interest of peace and security in the world in line with the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, and the expansion of the agreement up to the total annihilation of these arms. We hope one day to see a world free of nuclear arms and the threat of nuclear war, so we can live peacefully and in harmony throughout the world.

You esteemed delegates are aware that the imposed war has affected the growth of the country's economy and the expansion of industries a great deal. Now that necessary conditions have been provided for nationwide peace in view of the Geneva accords, I hope that all countries of the world will cooperate and assist us in building the country's destroyed economy so we can plan the country's socioeconomic foundation and achieve industrialization on the basis of modern technology, increased agricultural output, the utilization of underground resources and raw materials, and thereby improve the quality of current products and increasing their output.

In addition to trying to attract assistance from international society and friendly countries, the government will try to bring about feasible and effective conditions to secure the growth of private investment and the expansion of the government sector.

In order to improve the economy and strengthen industry in the country, the government must control and have a say in the financial and monetary affairs of the country, prevent artificial fluctuation in the rate of foreign currency and provide effective grounds for banks' activities to protect productive enterprises' turnover investments and private investors' activities.

In accordance with the country's laws, we will also try to attract and encourage foreign investments in the production and services areas.

I am confident that the government will be able to properly accomplish this mission, based on national interests and maintaining the [word indistinct] and economic conditions of the country, to take a step forward in paving the way toward the country's economic growth. In the meantime, the government, within the framework of its authority, must seek fundamental ways for expanding agriculture in the country and realizing land programs (?including) land reform, the expansion of agricultural land, and the irrigation of large areas of dry land, thus raising the level of agricultural products and maintaining effective and useful assistance and aid for the purpose of raising the standard of living and the level of production.

In light of the trade and economic policy, the government will expand economic development on the basis of growth in foreign trade and in line with the interests of the people and the country with individuals, establishments, and countries who want to engage in bilateral economic relations. This expansion will be realized through the signing of agreements and protocols.

Under present conditions, our country has commercial relations with the Soviet Union, India, and other countries. Ways to increase these ties will be further expanded in accordance with the interests of both sides. The development of industry, trade, and agriculture, and the enhancement of the country's economic development require regular transportation and communications, which are being provided by transport means and establishments.

Therefore, the government will pay attention to the expansion of communications and highways, which unfortunately have been completely destroyed or need serious attention. And it will render effective efforts in maintaining the security of the highways and in organizing transport establishments' activities, and will provide them with favorable assistance for their activities.

In addition to all these efforts, the government is duty-bound to improve living standards of personnel and to assist them in maintaining their material needs.

Esteemed members of the Meli Shura, in line with the policy of national reconciliation, the government once again invites those of our compatriots living abroad to return to their homeland and by utilizing the best work methods, to take part in the construction of the country along with our other compatriots. In order to realize the policy of national reconciliation and for the rapid return of our compatriots to the homeland, the government will respect and adhere to all the pledges that have been announced and implemented previously.

As a result of the signing and implementation of the Geneva accords, conditions now exist to bring about positive changes in our relations with our neighbors, Pakistan and Iran. We hope that organizations outside the country too, for the homeland's and people's sake, cease to prolong the war and, with the voice of peace and reconciliation, join the policy of national reconciliation.

Now that the military contingents of the Soviet Union have begun withdrawing in accordance with the Geneva accords, the good path of reconciliation and tranquility can welcome our good deeds. We invite all compatriots and group leaders outside the country and those commanders inside the country to utilize the ways and means that have been prepared for them toward maintaining the interests of the country and people, and to guide and mobilize the peaceful activities of their organizations toward ending the war and safeguarding the interests of the Afghan people, in order to win their confidence and obtain the status in society they are worthy of through dialogue and reconciliation.

We have not reserved any post in the government for ourselves and in order to to maintain peace in the country and conditions for ceasing further bloodhshed, we are ready to negotiate every position. As stated by Afghan President Dr Najibullah at the first legislative session of the Meli Shura: We are ready to talk with each individual or all of the opposition on issues. We have common blood and one faith. We all have a common homeland, the beloved Afghanistan. Compromise and give and take are strong means for national compromise.

We are confident that our joint and peaceful actions will become the cause of strong and independent economic and national sovereignty.

I would like to introduce the members of the designate government of the Republic of Afghanistan to you, esteemed members of the Wolasi Jirgah. As you know, the number of members of the Council of Ministers was very large. It has been (?reduced) almost by (?half). The economic conditions of the country demands that the government [words indistinct] should prevent increases in establishments and [words indistinct]:
Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister
Sayyed ‘Amanuddin Amin, deputy prime minister
Muhammad Sarwar Mangal, deputy prime minister
Mahbubullah Koshani, deputy prime minister
Hamidullah Tarzi, minister of finance
Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of internal affairs
Nur Ahmad (Barets), minister of higher and vocational education
Ghulam Faruq Ya‘qubi, minister of state security
Dr ‘Abdul Fatah Najm, minister of public health
‘Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs
Muhammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce
Sultan Husayn, minister of planning
Engineer Muhammad Ghofran, minister of agriculture and land reform
Sulayman La‘eq, minister of tribal affairs
‘Abdul Ghafar, minister of returnees affairs
Professor Ghulam Rasul, minister of education and training
Pasha Gul Wafadar, minister of civil aviation
Muhamamd ‘Aziz, minister of transport
Muhammad Eshaq Kawa, minister of mines and industries
Raz Muhammad Paktin, minister of water and electricity
Nazar Muhammad, minister of construction affairs
Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, minister of communication
Muhammad Asef Zaher, minister of revival and rural development
Dost Muhammad Fazl, minister of light industries and foodstuff
Muhammad Bashir Baghlani, minister of justice

Minister-Advisors:
Nematullah Pazhwak
Sarjang Jaji
Faqir Muhammad Ya‘qubi
Fazl Haq Khaleqiar, who remains at the same time governor of Herat
Shah Muhammad Dost, who also remains Afghan representative at the UN.

The ministers of defense and Islamic affairs will be provided in the future.

Thank you for your attention.

Soviets Hand Over Base, Equipment in Ghazni

LD0906084488 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Khul [as received], June 8, BAKHTAR—The limited military contingents of Soviet Union before returning to their country handed over their military and economic establishments in Ghazni Province, at the value of twelve million and seven hundred forty two thousand afghanis to the Afghan Armed Forces in Ghazni Province.

The establishments are including of military barracks, a club accomodating one thousand persons at a time, a modern bath, two power generators, four water pumps and various residential, feeding, sport and cultural equipment.

Government, Rebel Operations, Clashes Reported

Rebels Attack Qandahar, Ghazni

BK0806122588 Hong Kong AFP in English 1159 GMT 8 Jun 88

[By Alain Boebion]

[Text] Islamabad, June 8 (AFP)—The Afghan resistance appear to be staging attacks on several provincial fronts, where they have faced heavy fighting for several days, rather than stepping up pressure on Kabul, observers here said Wednesday.

Mujahidin fighters carried out only five rocket attacks against the Afghan capital during the week of May 31-June 5, down from 19 the week before, and have launched attacks on three cities.

They have struck at Qandahar, Afghanistan's second-largest city in the south of the country, and virtually taken Kowt-e ‘Ashrow, capital of Vardak Province about 30 kilometers (20 miles) southwest of Kabul.

Resistance guerrillas have also been fighting for Ghazni, the capital of Ghazni Province about 100 kilometers (62 miles) southwest of Kabul only recently evacuated by Soviet troops.

Eye-witness reports and Western diplomats indicate there is heavy fighting in Qandahar and that resistance guerrillas have repulsed Soviet-backed Afghan Government troops in the perimeter of the city.

The Soviets appear to have temporarily suspended evacuation of their base in Qandahar to lend a hand to Kabul forces, they said.

Afghan forces were still holding on to the city of Qalat-e Ghelza'i, capital of Zabol Province about 100 kilometers (62 miles) from Qandahar, Western diplomats said.

Informed sources said that the Afghan rebels have tightened their control over the main 500-kilolmeter (310 mile) Qandahar-Kabul highway used by Soviet convoys, and that they have seized three cities along the road: Qarah Bagh in Ghazni Province, Shah Juy in Zabol Province, and Seyyedabad in Vardak Province.

With Kowt-e 'Ashrow and the city of Moqor, south of Qarah Bagh, expected to fall in the next few days, the rebels will control almost all of the strategic road connecting the south of the country to the capital, the sources aid.

Several Soviet convoys have been attacked along this road in the last few days, mainly close to Seyyedabad and Ghazni, and resistance fighters have destroyed three armoured vehicles, diplomatic sources said.

When the Soviets fired back during an attack, they hit two civilian buses and killed four people, the sources said.

The attacks on convoys returning to the Soviet Union indicate that Moscow's campaign to get resistance leaders to allow Soviet troops to reach the border in safety has not been a great success, Western sources said.

After reaching agreement with Commander Mas'ud, who controls the Panjsher Valley and access to the Salang tunnel used by the convoys, the Soviets tried to obtain a similar guarantee from Esma'il Khan, commander of the Herat region in northwest Afghanistan, which the Soviets began to evacuate last week.

The Soviets have begun evacuating their aerial base at Shindand, their second most important air base in Afghanistan, said Western diplomats citing official Afghan sources.

The base was attacked several days ago by mujahidin guerrillas who destroyed three helicopters, they said.

The resistance also appear to have eased pressure on Jalalabad between the Pakistan border and Kabul. Jalalabad, which protects Kabul, was calm all last week, Western diplomats said, adding that the Soviets appear to have evacuated the airport which no longer functions at night.

The Afghan resistance claims that the Soviets have not totally evacuated Jalalabad and are maintaining 700 to 1,000 anti-guerrilla warfare experts there.

17 Killed in Rebel Clashes

LD0806090188 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0431 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR—At least seventeen extremists were killed and tens other severely injured as a result of skirmishes which took place in the Kuh-e Safi area of Zabol Province as well as in Eshkamesh District of Takhar Province, reports our military reporters.

Inter and intra differences among extremist groups are getting momentum by every passing day.

Clashes occurred a few days ago among different extremist groups in the suburbs of Konduz Province as well as in Parvan and Sar-e Pol Provinces left many dead and injured. [sentence as received]

Rebels Kill 5 in Khowst

LD0806090788 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR—The armed detachments of the country crushed, in close cooperation of local people, the extremist groups who were disturbing peaceful life of people here and there.

According to our military reporters, an extremist group which was about to disrupt peace in Jaji Meydan of Khowst grand district has been toppled. Report indicates that the extremist's hideouts were demolished and their warfare confiscated.

Report says, the people there act unitedly with the Armed Forces. Now, peace and normalcy is prevailing over three districts and six sub-districts of Khowst grand district.

The extremist groups who are unable to encounter the armed detachments of the Afghan Army resorted to another criminal act there, report says.

The extremist fired rockets on residential areas in Khowst as a result of which five children and a women were wounded.

Kapisa, Vardak Missile Attacks

LD0806184088 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Extremists have mounted an attack with heavy weapons and missiles against residential areas in Golbahar District, Kapisa Province, thereby committing another crimes. According to a BAKHTAR military correspondent, as a result of launching these missiles, 13 of our compatriots were martyred, 10 others were wounded and a mosque was destroyed.

According to another report, extremist elements launched surface-to-surface missiles at residential areas in Vardak Province, severely wounding another five people.

Bangladesh

Further on Controversy Over State Religion Bill

30 Students Injured in Dhaka

BK0806161488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] More violence has been reported from Bangladesh following the passage of the controversial bill by Parliament making Islam the state religion. At least 30 people were injured when student demonstrators clashed with police in Dhaka. The students went on a rampage, setting on fire several lorries and damaging vehicles.

The protest rally, organized by 16 opposition students organizations, demanded the immediate withdrawal of the bill. The authorities have tightened security around the Dhaka University complex following the agitation. The opposition parties have issued statements condemning the approval of the bill.

Opposition Urges 'Agitation'

BK0906033288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] In Bangladesh, a 4-day nationwide agitation program begins today to protest against the declaration of Islam as the state religion of the country. The agitation has been called by the eight-party opposition alliance led by the Awami League. The alliance, in a statement, has alleged that the present government is engaged in a conspiracy to turn Bangladesh into a subservient state of Pakistan by sowing the seeds of communalism through declaring Islam the state religion.

The Central Students Action Committee also announced a countrywide students strike on the 11th of this month. Several violent protests were reported from different parts yesterday, following the passage of the controversial bill. At least 30 people were injured in clashes with police in Dhaka.

More on Opposition Plans

BK0906091988 Hong Kong AFP in English 0903 GMT 9 Jun 88

[By Golam Tahaboor]

[Text] Dhaka, June 9 (AFP)—The Bangladesh opposition has announced new anti-government action, including a half-day general strike on Sunday, against a controversial new law that makes Islam the state religion.

Observers saw the move announced late Wednesday as an apparent bid to revive a flagging opposition campaign to oust President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

The protests were announced separately by the three main opposition alliances a day after the passage of a constitutional amendment declaring Islam the official religion of predominantly Moslem Bangladesh.

The passage of the bill by the ruling Jatiya Party sparked off street protests here, and police Wednesday charged student demonstrators opposed to the legislation. Five people were injured and a dozen vehicles were damaged.

The strike planned for Sunday will be the first major coordinated action called by the largely divided opposition since an April 25 anti-government strike that coincided with the opening of the Parliament, elected in a controversial March 3 poll marred by boycotts and work stoppages.

Sunday's eight-hour general strike, the 12th this year against the six-year old government of Mr. Ershad, will be the centerpiece of a series of nationwide protest demonstrations announced separately by the three opposition coalitions.

The seven-party alliance led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) of Begum Khaleda Zia promised a week of protest, including a workers' rally Friday, a demonstration Saturday and a rally following Sunday's strike, all in Dhaka.

From Monday to Wednesday, there will be rallies and demonstrations in rural areas, with more protests in Dhaka next Thursday, BNP officials said.

The eight-party group dominated by the Awami League of Sheikh Hasina Wajed announced a four-day programme beginning with a meeting here late Thursday and rallies and marches Friday and a torchlight procession Saturday.

Sheikh Hasina's alliance, which includes the pro-Moscow Communist Party of Bangladesh, says the Islamisation bill is against the spirit of Bangladesh's 1971 war of liberation from another Islamic country, Pakistan.

The five-party left-wing alliance of Nirmal Sen announced a three-day programme beginning Friday with a rally in Dhaka, and marches and protests Saturday.

The three alliances' "Oust Ershad" campaign over the past five years has seen a number of strikes paralyse the country, as well as street riots and agitation that has left about 100 people dead.

An estimate based on newspaper reports shows that five years of anti-Ershad agitation have seen 56 days of general strike, 29 of them in 1987 and 11 this year.

But analysts say that in recent months, serious inner divisions resulting from old political rivalries between the Awami League and the BNP have seriously damaged the cohesion of the opposition.

Both the Awami League and the BNP are former ruling parties of Bangladesh, ousted by bloody military coups.

Many analysts saw the planned weekend protests as aimed at regaining their shrinking popular base.

India

Gandhi Views Nuclear Capability, Terrorism

BK0806162688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that India need not sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] because it has not made the bomb. Addressing a press conference in Bonn at the end of his 3-day visit to West Germany, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said that we have demonstrated our will not to make a nuclear weapon. We have had the capability for some time now, but we are very clear that we do not want to go down that road. He said that India feels that the NPT discriminates between nuclear-weapon countries and nonnuclear-weapon countries.

Referring to the efforts India has made to normalize and improve relations with Pakistan, the prime minister said:

[Begin recording] We have made about 22 proposals to Pakistan ranging from treaties for peace and friendship, nonattack on nuclear facilities, direct contacts between military units so that escalations do not take place; on the economic side, slowly opening up to both countries; on the cultural side, exchanges of media, singers, dancers, troupes, or very wide range of things have been suggested, but one must remember that it is not suggestions and words that count.

Today Pakistan is demonstrating very clearly two things—its intention with a nuclear-weapon program and its support to terrorists. Pakistan today is perhaps the largest supporter of terrorism on the globe, and it is that what makes the difference. [end recording]

About his talks with FRG leaders, the prime minister said these had gone very well, but both the countries could look forward to an era of close cooperation in economic, cultural, and political areas. He also announced that the West German Government has offered a mixed credit of 660 million marks as its contribution for the modernization of the Rourkela Steel Plant. He said it is a good offer.

Meanwhile, India will take all steps to ensure that proposals from West Germany for investment in industrial and technical cooperation are cleared expeditiously. This was decided at the talks the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had in Bonn with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his colleagues. Mr Gandhi and Dr Kohl had three prolonged rounds of talks, including a private session.

The AIR special correspondent, Manohar Takroo, reports that special emphasis will be on cooperation in science and technology. This will mainly cover high-tech areas for which West Germany has earned worldwide fame. Our correspondent says a small joint evaluation committee is being set as an institutional machinery for these exchanges. Both sides have agreed that there is considerable scope for expanding and diversifying trade and for increased German investment and collaboration in India's small and medium industries. There will be periodic exchanges to ensure fruitful implementation of these proposals.

Terrorism in its various dimensions was another important subject discussed between the two sides. The two governments will cooperate with each other in dealing with this menace.

In the field of culture, the countries agreed to hold festivals of their art and heritage. The prime minister's other engagements included a meeting with Dr Vogel, the chairman of the opposition Social Democratic Party of West Germany. Another important engagement was a luncheon meeting with leading representatives of German industries.

Gandhi, Najibullah Assail Pakistan on Accord

BK0906051588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] India and Afghanistan have expressed their serious concern over continued interference by Pakistan in the implementation of the Geneva accord on Afghanistan. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today had an hour-long meeting with the Afghan president, Dr Najibullah, immediately on his arrival in New York.

Dr Najibullah has informed Mr Rajiv Gandhi of the serious violations of the accord by Pakistan. He said his government was in constant touch with the Soviet Union in the matter. The prime minister said it is important for peace and stability in Afghanistan that Pakistan respects the traditions of noninterference laid down in the accord. Dr Najibullah expressed confidence that his government will be able to control the situation.

Briefing newsmen, an official spokesman said that the talks were very warm and friendly. AIR correspondent, Ratan Salve, reports from New York that the talks were in continuation of the dialogue the two leaders had at their recent meeting in New Delhi.

The U.S. congressman, Mr Solarz, also met Mr Gandhi for about half an hour. The prime minister will address the special UN session on disarmament.

Gandhi To Enhance Diplomatic Ties With Israel

TA0906044188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Indian President Rajiv Gandhi has promised to raise the level of diplomatic ties with Israel within the next week. Israel Radio's Washington correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says Gandhi promised this to the chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Morris Abram. Gandhi asked that the promise be kept secret.

'More Flexible' Trade Protocol Signed With China

BK0806125588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] India and China today signed a new trade protocol in Beijing for 1988-89. This follows 3 days of talks between the two sides in the Chinese capital.

The Indian delegation was led by the commerce secretary, Mr A.N. Verma, and the Chinese side was headed by the vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade, Mr Shen Jueren.

Under the protocol, China is to import from India mineral ore, agricultural products, chemicals, engineering goods, plywoods, jewels, and synthetic yarn. Indian imports from China will include raw silk and silk yarn, metals and minerals, petroleum products, pharmaceuticals, and pig iron.

The new protocol, which is a more flexible one, speaks of the potential for further growth of bilateral trade on a more balanced basis.

IPKF Contingent Returns From Sri Lanka

BK0906033488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] A contingent of the Peacekeeping Force, which is no longer operationally required in Sri Lanka, arrived in Madras yesterday evening from Trincomalee by ship. The contingent included 400 personnel and some military equipment. Another ship is expected to bring the artillery and infantry combat vehicles rendered surplus in the Sri Lankan operations.

Punjab 'Terrorists' Kill 5; PRC Arms Seized

BK0906032688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] In Punjab, five persons including a head constable were shot dead by terrorists in separate incidents last night. In Amritsar District, a head constable was killed and five constables were injured, when terrorists attacked a CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] post in village Tinde and opened indiscriminate fire with rocket launchers and automatic weapons. They, however, fled when the jawans [soldiers] returned the fire. In Jullundur District, terrorists gunned down three persons.

Meanwhile, the BSF [Border Security Force] recovered 8 Chinese assault rifles, 3 pistols, 24 magazines, and about 1,000 rounds of ammunition, when it intercepted at Bunchok in Ferozepore District, three intruders coming from Pakistan. The intruders, however, fled back into Pakistan.

Communications Satellite Launch Set for 21 Jul

BK0806085588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The Indian telecommunications satellite INSAT-1C will be put into orbit on 21st of next month by the European launcher Ariane. The satellite has already arrived at the Kourou launch pad in French Guyana. The 1,180-kg INSAT-1C is a multifunction satellite. It will relay long-distance national and international telephone communications, television transmission, and weather data.

Editorial Views Results of Talks With Pakistan

BK0906102488 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 4 Jun 88 p 11

[Editorial: "The Litmus Test"]

[Text] It is rather unfortunate that 40 years after independence India and Pakistan are still living in an atmosphere full of mutual distrust, bordering on hostility. They have had three wars, constant bickering and little hope of creating a better neighbourhood. There have been occasional efforts to undo the damage mutual suspicion and hatred have done to both countries, but these have failed, possibly because they were not serious or were not followed up. The last two years particularly have seen the two countries move further apart much to the disappointment of all those who want to see the subcontinent living in a tension-free atmosphere.

With this background, no one could really hope that the two-day talks between the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries would succeed. Even Mr K.P.S. Menon and Mr Abdus Sattar—pragmatic men as they are—would not have thought of pulling off a success where there was none in sight. It is not surprising that Mr Abdus Sattar spoke about his disappointment and frustration before he caught the plane for Islamabad. The Indian Government too did not have to say much about the outcome of the talks.

Mr Sattar's visit may have, however, served a purpose. He had a meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who candidly told the Pakistan Foreign Secretary that India was feeling rather concerned over Islamabad's involvement in terrorist violence in Punjab. That Punjab has become a key factor in Indo-Pakistan relations was also evident at the Foreign Secretaries' talks. Mr Sattar spoke assuringly about Pakistan's innocence. New Delhi's contention is that Pakistan has not lived up to the assurance it gave in the past. Despite the fact that the Home Secretaries of the two countries had met in December 1986, India has evidence of increased Pakistani support for terrorists in Punjab. Pakistan has in fact been told that Punjab has become a litmus test for determining Pakistan's intentions towards India. If New Delhi's message has gone home, the Foreign Secretaries' meeting may not have been in vain.

Much will, however, depend on how Pakistan has taken the message. Islamabad needs to understand that for India Punjab is the most serious problem on hand and it is unfriendly of a country to enjoy a neighbour's troubles. It is worse if it fans that trouble. No Government in Delhi is going to see dismemberment of the Indian State whatever the reasons—domestic or otherwise. It will pay any price to maintain the nation's unity. Pakistan would do well to remove Indian misgivings about its support for Sikh terrorists in Punjab. Once this is done the prospects of an Indo-Pakistan understanding will brighten.

Briefs

Semiconductor Plant Commissioned

The second high-tech semiconductor manufacturing plant was commissioned in Sikkim today. Built at a cost of over 3 crore rupees, it has an annual production capacity of 35 million semiconductor devices. Speaking at the function, the chief minister, Mr N.B. Bhandari, said the plant will help in the expansion of electronics industry in the state. [Text] [*BK0806163088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 88*]

Iran

Musavi on Hashemi-Rafsanjani Appointment

LD0806164688 Tehran IRNA in English 1546 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi today said that significance of the appointment of Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani as the acting commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces by leader of the Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeyni are clear to the government.

The government has always done, and will continue to do, all within its power to follow up the leadership's views, Musavi said during a cabinet session here.

The premier also reiterated the government's determination to continue its resistance and sacred defence until the just demands of Iranian people are met.

During the session, minister of economic and financial affairs Mohammad Javad Iravani presented the cabinet with a report on the financial status of the country.

Later, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati briefed the cabinet on his participation in the U.N. session on disarmament.

Velayati said that his participation in the disarmament conference was aimed at drawing world public attention to Iraq's catastrophic chemical attack on Halabjah and cautioned international organizations of the consequences of their silence vis-a-vis the repeated deployment of toxic gases by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Confers With Montazeri

LD0906105788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, met yesterday in Qom with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, the deputy leader. They discussed various issues at this meeting.

Aqazadeh Threatens Break With OPEC Over Quotas

OW0906132588 Tokyo KYODO in English 1252 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 9 KYODO—Iran will set its own oil production quota unless the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) enforces its established limit on Iraqi oil output, Iran's oil minister said Thursday.

In an interview with KYODO News Service, Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh said his country would also bolt from OPEC production limits if Iraq insists on an output quota equal to Iran's when the group meets in Vienna on June 11. Iran's present OPEC production quota is 2.37 million barrels per day.

"The common interest of the member countries might provide a situation wherein pressure can be exerted on Iraq to follow OPEC guidelines," he said, adding that such pressure must come from Persian Gulf nations belonging to the organization.

Aqazadeh also blasted Saudi Arabia for acting "politically rather than logically" at OPEC's meeting last April in Vienna which ended in a deadlock over the setting of new production quotas for member countries.

"We believe that the recent actions of the Saudis have been 100 percent political. This has been especially so since the Mecca incident in July 1987," he said.

"If the Saudis give up this line then we perceive no difficulty in reaching an agreement in the coming OPEC session," Aqazadeh said but added the recent Arab summit in Algeria will provide a political undertone to the next meeting.

Aqazadeh also said that cooperation with non-OPEC producers was the best way to stabilize and strengthen the world oil market.

Further Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Premier

Received by Khamene'i

LD0806061788 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Visiting Bulgarian Premier Georgi Atanasov met President 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday and conveyed a special message from his Bulgarian counterpart Todor Zhivkov.

Atanasov also briefed Khamene'i on his "positive" talks with Iranian officials.

The Bulgarian ranking official lauding Iran's rich history, culture, literature and arts said Bulgaria feels the influence of Iranian art and culture on its own literature, art, language and handicrafts.

Atanasov calling for expansion of bilateral ties, expressed hope that Tehran-Sofia cooperation would make progress through frequent exchange of political, economic, cultural and technical delegations.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is an important country, he said adding that Iranian people, especially young forces play a prominent part in the Islamic Revolution.

In response, President Khamene'i thanking him for Zhivkov's message emphasised on the significance of mutual relations between the two countries in the political, economic, cultural and technical areas particularly after the Islamic Revolution's victory (1979). Khamene'i welcomed expansion of ties between the two sides.

The president referred to the role culture plays in relations between world countries terming it as a guarantee for strengthening of long-term relations between nations.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution, he noted, Iran's anti-imperialist and anti-arrogance policy necessitated that the Islamic Republic broaden its relations with progressive countries.

"Perhaps, no big event has incurred more loss on global arrogance and imperialism over the recent decades than the victory of the Islamic Revolution," said the president.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said global arrogance, especially the U.S. has begun an all-out aggression against the Islamic Revolution after losing "a powerful base" like Iran which he said has since changed into a "strong anti-imperialist and anti-arrogance citadel," challenging the very concept of the so-called U.S. interests.

U.S. aggression, he added, results from its seeking of revenge for the fatal blow it received from Islamic Iran.

Also present at the meeting were Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi, President's high advisr Mostafa Mir Salim, Minister of Agriculture 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri and political representatives of the two countries.

The Bulgarian delegation led by Atanasov arrived here Tuesday afternoon.

Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD0806111688 Tehran IRNA in English 1005 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, May 8, IRNA—Visiting Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov met with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Wednesday morning and discussed expansion of bilateral political, economic and cultural relations.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the Bulgarian premier who arrived here Tuesday afternoon on a three-day visit heading a delegation that the Islamic Republic of Iran evaluated its ties with Bulgaria positively. He said Iran enjoyed good relations with Bulgaria.

In pre-revolution time, said the speaker, due to vast U.S. influence in Iran Eastern Bloc countries did not have much chance for good relations with Iran. However, in post-revolution period Iran has based its foreign policy on the principle of establishing ties with any country which does not have expansionist objectives, he said.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the "blunder" of the Soviet Government in its ties with Iran had caused Tehran's relations with Eastern Bloc countries to become weakened to some extent.

Iran has long borders with the Soviet Union and at the early days of the revolution mutual relations were not negative. But, he added, the outbreak of the Iraqi-imposed war and the present Soviet support for the Iraqi regime has affected public opinion in Iran. However, good ties with countries such as Bulgarian neutralises the effect to a certain degree, he told Premier Atanasov.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani called on Atanasov to give his talks with Iranian officials on bilateral cultural relations its due credit because Iran is an Islamic country and because a significant number of Muslims live in Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian premier invited Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to visit Sofia which he accepted, its date to be fixed at a future occasion.

Visits Cultural Center

LD0806112088 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Bulgarian Premier Georgi Atanasov and Bulgarian delegation currently in Iran at the invitation of Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi inspected various art workshops and central library of Iran's Cultural Heritage Center here Wednesday.

Head of the center Mahdi Hojjat gave explanations on the center's plans to protect and revive cultural heritage in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri accompanied the guests.

Bulgaria's Khristov on Trade

LD0806214888 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Khristov, currently in Iran as a member of Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov's delegation, held talks with Agriculture Minister 'Abbas 'Ali Zali here Wednesday on Tehran-Sofia economic, technical and agricultural cooperation.

Zali told Khristov that the visit to Tehran of the high ranking Bulgarian delegation will have great effect on expansion of Tehran-Sofia ties.

He said that in view of current understanding between the two countries, the mutual cooperation and trade exchanges are expected to increase more than ever before.

In response, Khristov who also chairs the joint Tehran-Sofia economic cooperation commission, described current talks between the two countries as "positive" and said that Iran and Bulgaria have agreed to implement new projects in the field of electronics and transfer of technology.

Transport of goods to Iran from Bulgarian ports via the Soviet Union was another topic on which the two countries have reached an agreement, he said.

According to Khristov, Iran and Bulgaria are to cooperate in the fields of veterinary medicines, pedology, forests, chemicals and exchange of experts.

He also noted that the two countries will continue bartering commodities with Bulgaria exchanging machinery and electronic instruments in return for Iranian oil and cars [as received].

Khristov Meets Nabavi

LD0806190488 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Visiting Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Trade Khristo Khristov conferred with Minister of Heavy Industries Behzdad Nabavi here Wednesday.

The two sides announced willingness to upgrade economic relations between Iran and Bulgaria, stressing on expansion of bilateral industrial ties especially in the heavy industries field.

Also studied at the meeting was following up of economic-industrial protocols signed earlier between the two countries.

Meanwhile, Khristov met and talked with Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh here later today afternoon.

in the meeting, the two sides expressing satisfaction with the improvement of mutual economic and political ties, called for the promotion of the Iran-Bulgaria volume of trade exchanges and bilateral relations.

Khristov announced his country's readiness to cooperate with the Islamic Republic in carrying out development plans in the oil and gas sector, including petrochemical industries. He also invited Aqazadeh to visit Bulgaria and improve the two countries present technical cooperation.

Khristov arrived in Tehran Tuesday afternoon accompanying a ranking delegation led by Bulgaria's Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov.

Communique on U.S. Presence

LD0906102488 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 9, IRNA—A joint Iran-Bulgaria communique issued at the end of a three-day official visit to Tehran of Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov Thursday called for withdrawal of U.S. and NATO military forces from the Persian Gulf. It also stressed that security of the region must be maintained by the Persian Gulf states.

The communique issued simultaneously in Tehran and Sofia also condemned the use of chemical weapons in war.

In two rounds of friendly talks between Prime Ministers Huseyn Musavi and Georgi Atanasov, issues of mutual interests as well as regional and international matters were raised. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the trend of bilateral political, economic and cultural realtions and discussed ways of further expanding them. The joint statement on economic, political and cultural cooperation outlines the main areas for expansion of bilateral relations till the year 2000. On regional issues both sides pledged support for the struggle of the Palestinian people and condemned the Zionist aggression against Arab nations as well as Israeli harassment of the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

They also deplored the Zionist aggression against Lebanon and expressed support for the struggle of Lebanese people to achieve independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The prime ministers of Iran and Bulgaria strongly condemned apartheid policy and declared the preparedness of their respective countries to back liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Both countries also stressed the important role of the Non-Aligned Movement in international level to materialise just and humanitarian objectives as well as independence and sovereignty of the developing countries. Premier Atanasov also invited his Iranian counterpart to visit Sofia which was accepted, the time of the visit to be fixed later.

While in Iran Premier Atanasov met and talked with President 'Ali Khamene'i and Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Ends Visit; Musavi Comments

LD0906124288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Bulgarian Premier Georgi Atanasov left Tehran for home this morning at the end of his second round of talks with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi. Before leaving Tehran, he gave an interview to the Central News Unit in which he referred to the outcome of his talks with high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic as very useful with mutual understanding. He said: During these talks the groundwork was prepared to expand the two countries' relations in future; the talks were conducted on a high level.

The Bulgarian premier expressed a desire to expand ties between the two countries in the commercial, economic, and industrial fields, particularly Iran's nonoil exports. He added: We are fully in favor of planning the two countries' economic relations on a long-term basis and some agreements have been reached in this regard.

During an interview with our correspondent about the results of the Bulgarian premier's visit, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said:

[Begin recording] This visit had very good results in economic, political, and cultural fields. The talks can be divided into two parts: The first part covered bilateral ties in the economic, political, and cultural fields and will result in the signing of several memoranda of understanding and protocols on these matters. I will outline these protocols. In the economic field, we predict that the volume of our transactions will be more than $600 million this year; and new (?ways of) expanding [word indistinct] is envisioned. The cultural memorandum of understanding is particularly important, as is the protocol on political [words indistinct]

We also had a useful discussion on international issues. In this respect, one discussion concerned ties between the Islamic Revolution, the Islamic Republic, and the socialist countries. This was one topic of discussion, which in part went back to the issue of the Middle East and the world in general. We exchanged views on this matter, and I think that our talks as a whole were very useful. [end recording]

Protocols With Soviet Union, Bulgaria Signed

NC0906070088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] The annual Soviet-Iranian joint commission concluded its 17th session in Tehran last evening with the signing of a protocol. According to the Central News Unit, this commission session discussed setting up joint shipping routes in the Caspian Sea, the Islamic Republic of Iran's cargo vessels using the Caspian Sea for transporting commercial goods, and the loading and (?tariffs) of goods between two countries. The session concluded with the signing of a protocol.

Similarly, the second session of the Subcommittee for Transportation between Iran and Bulgaria also concluded with the signing of a protocol between the two countries' transportation ministers in Tehran last evening.

According to the Central News Unit, the two sides reached an agreement during the subcommittee's final session on expanding cooperation in sea, air and land transportation, and on convening a tripartite session between Iran, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union.

According to this report, Iran's director general of the country's ports and shipping organization said in an interview with correspondents: At this session, the parties reached a consensus on air routes between Iran and Bulgaria, cooperation between the two countries on maritime industries and shipbuilding, and use of the two ports of Burgas and Varna for transporting and exporting of Iranian goods and products. It was decided that air routes between the two countries will be initiated following approval by the cabinet and the Islamic Majlis.

Mobilization Forces Depart for Battlefronts

Forces From Khorramabad

LD0806141088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 jun 88

[Text] A large number of trained forces, redispatch forces, experts, and a number of clergymen and forces from the IRGC Lorestan Province left Khorrambad this morning for the battlefronts and were seen off by the people of Khorramabad. They left for the fronts in line with the third extraordinary convoy of the forces of the Mohammad, Peace Be Upon Him, Corps.

Donations from the people of Lorestan Province to the fighters were also sent to the fronts with the convoy. A group of fresh mobilization forces from the town of Bafq and the Bahabad area of Yazd left Bafq for the battlefronts of the war against the enemies of Islam.

Mohammad Corps From Cities

LD0806141488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] On the occasion of the Day of God, 5 June, thousands of mobilization forces, in the third dispatch of the Mohammad, Peace Be Upon Him, Corps, today left for the fronts from the following places: Mashhad, Qom, Esfahan, Sanandaj, Rasht, Kerman, Mahabad, Zanjan, Karaj, Arak, Shahyar, Mahabad Rudkhaney-ye, Ashtian, Robat Karim, Eshtehard, Saveh, Khomeyn, Lahallat, Deligan, Sarvand, and Tafresh.

Hamadan Province Volunteers

LD0806130888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Continuing the dispatch of large groups of fresh forces to the battlefronts, a large convoy of these forces left Hamadan Province this morning for the war zones as part of the third convoy of forces of His Holiness Mohammad. We have received the following report:

The third convoy of the Mohammad, Peace Be Upon Him, Corps, left Hamadan Province for the battlefronts of heroism and honor after special ceremonies. According to the Central News Unit, this convoy, consisting of forces of phased plan, redispatched forces, trained forces, mobilization forces of government employees, workers, students, and a number of clergymen from the towns of Hamadan, Malayer, Nahavand, Toiserkan, and Razan, Kabutarahang, Bahar, Sharrah, (Samenin), Asadabad, and Serkan Districts, gathered at the mobilization headquarters of the Hamadan region before being sent to the fronts. They chanted slogans expressing their complete readiness to continue the war against the enemies of Islam until final victory is achieved.

Later, moving through a number of streets in the city of Hamadan, they were warmly seen off by a large crowd of people. They marched passed the holy Koran and the portrait of the leader of the revolution, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, and then left for the battlefronts of the war between light and darkness. [passage omitted]

Fighters From Yasuj

LD0806204688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] In continuation of the vast movement to the front by the Mohammad, Peace Be Upon Him, Corps from all over the country, a large group of fresh mobilization forces today left Yasuj for the front. Those who are now joining the fighters of Islam are from different townships and districts of Bovir Ahmadi va Kohkieuyeh Province.

According to the Central News Unit, a large number of combatant forces of the township of Qalemshahr yesterday afternoon left for the war locations.

WIH Denies Shelling City of Darband-i Khan

LD0906053588 Tehran IRNA in English 0530 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 9, IRNA—A spokesman of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Thursday categorically denied an Iraqi claim that Iranian troops had shelled the northeastern Iraqi city of Darband-i Khan. The spokesman added that such Iraqi claims have now become routine.

The people of Iraq are fully aware that Iran has not even fired a single shell on Iraqi cities, he said, adding that the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to hold on to the principle of retaliation.

The Muslim forces of Iran, he added, contrary to Iraqi attacks on Iranian cities and deployment of chemical weapons have so far maintained patience and refrained from retaliation.

Central Command Denies Helicopter Shot Down

LD0906095288 Tehran IRNA in English 0941 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 9, IRNA—The Central Command of the Iranian Army aviation service today strongly denied an Iraqi allegation that it has downed an Iranian helicopter in the northern front.

The command termed Iraq's claim as "pure fabrication" adding that Iranian helicopters returned to bases safely after successfully carrying out their missions Wednesday and Thursday.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Iraqi Mirage Downed Over Gulf

LD0906075288 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 9, IRNA—An Iraqi Mirage fighter was shot and blown up in the air in a dogfight over the Persian Gulf.

According to a communique issued by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces, the enemy plane was downed at 04:50 hours local time (01:20 hours GMT) Wednesday [as received].

Azarbayjan Village Bombed

LD0906082088 Tehran IRNA in English 0753 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., June 9, IRNA—One civilian was martyred and six others wounded as Iraqi planes raided "Bivaran Sofla" village of the border town of Sar Dasht, in this province at 12:30 hours local time (09:00 hours GMT) Wednesday

Iraqi Planes Violate Airspace

LD0906101788 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Khorramabad, Lorestan Prov., June 9, IRNA—Iraqi warplanes violated airspace of the cities of Kuhdasht and Pol-e Dokhtar at 11:56 hours local time (08:26 GMT) Thursday.

The intruding enemy planes broke the sound barrier over these cities when they were forced to flee by heavy anti-aircraft fire.

Communique No 3,227

LD0806161488 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Iran's Muslim combatants continued their battles with Iraqi troops throughout the warfronts Tuesday, killing and wounding a large number of enemy soldiers and destroying several vehicles and bunkers of theirs, said a military communique here Wednesday.

The 3227th Joint Staff communique said that Iranian Air Force jets carried out their routine patrol missions over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman yesterday, providing air cover for the navy and reconnoitering 24 vessels.

Iranian naval units, in addition to protecting the country's southern islands and oil rigs, decisively carried out patrol missions in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman Tuesday.

In Kharratha, southern sector, an Iraqi patrol unit sustained heavy casualties and was forced to flee under heavy Iranian artillery fire yesterday.

A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and five enemy bunkers and a munitions dump destroyed in parts of the southern and Western sectors in artillery duels with Iranian Gendarmerie forces Tuesday.

On Tuesday, Iraqi armoured units operating in Panjwin, Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar, Helaleh and Chazzabeh sustained heavy losses and their activities were disrupted by Iranian artillery fire, concluded the communique.

Dezful Airspace Violated

LD0806165188 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—An Iraqi warplane violated Iran's air space over Dezful (Khuzestan Province) in the country's southwestern part Wednesday afternoon, but was repelled by heavy anti-aircraft fire. The intruding plane broke the sound barrier while fleeing.

Correction to Hashemi-Rafsanjani Speech

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Anniversary Speech," published in the 8 June Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, p 48:

Paragraph three, from sentence four make read: ...When the system is tyrannized it is much worse than if a few isolated individuals are tyrannized. Therefore, we should be self-sacrificing, particularly people like us, who are the pioneers here. From the first day... (correcting queried words, rewording for clarity)

Paragraph five, last sentence, to paragraph six make read: ...They still call themselves Islamic, but they are worse than the Communists and the Tudehites. We should act according to the guidelines laid down by our sources of emulation. [new graf] We should discover what our imam is saying and then we should follow his instructions. Our masses follow religion only as it is laid down by our sources of emulation, in all matters of marriage, divorce, life and death, and their professions. All these matters are according to these prescribed guidelines. These guidelines should be firmly followed by our people. The people should have this framework. We are dutybound to serve within the framework of the velayat-e faqih [rule by jurisconsult]. If we have made this pledge among ourselves, then we have made our pledge with God;... (correcting queried words, supplying indistinct words, rewording for clarity)

Pakistan

Ziaul Haq Announces 'Caretaker' Federal Cabinet

BK0906082488 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] An 18-member caretaker federal cabinet was sworn in in Islamabad today. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq administered the oath of office at a simple, but impressive ceremony at Aiwan-i Sadr [president's house]. There are 17 federal ministers and 1 minister of state.

They are: Mr Mohammad Aslam Khattak, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Malik Nasir Ahmad Ahir, Dr Mahbubul Haq, Chaudhary Shujat Hussain, Mr Wasim Sajjad, Mr Wazir Ahmed Jogezai, Mr Mahbub A. Haroon, Mr Ahmed Nawaz Bugti, Mr Sartaj Aziz, Mr Elahi Bux Sumro, Chaudhary Nisar Ali, Mr Zafarullah Khan Jamali, Khan Mir Afzal Khan, Haji Malik Faridullah Khan, Mr Wazir Mazhar Nadvi, and Mir Hazar Khan Bijrani.

Sardar Fateh Mohammad Mohammad Hasani will be minister of state.

The portfolios are being announced later this afternoon. The ceremony was attended by the Senate chairman, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan; the speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Hamid Nasir Chatha; chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Akhtar Abdul Rahman; and the services chiefs. Some senators and the attorney general of Pakistan and senior officials were also present.

President Said To Continue Aiding Mujahidin

BK0906022088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0207 GMT 9 Jun 88

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Excerpts] Islamabad, June 9 (AFP)—Pakistani President Mohammed Ziaul Haq is likely to continue to aid Moslem rebels fighting the Afghan Government despite promises not to do so, diplomats said here. [passage omitted]

Gen. Ziaul Haq said Tuesday evening that Pakistan was co-operating fully in the implementation of the Geneva accords, which also allow for the two superpowers to continue supplying their respective allies with arms.

The Pakistani president, currently facing a domestic crisis after dissolving Parliament and sacking the cabinet on May 29, is a firm supporter of the Afghan resistance and the establishment of an Islamic government in Kabul.

His sacked Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo was one of the driving forces behind the Afghan peace pact and Gen. Ziaul Haq apparently is not that pleased with the historic agreement, observers said.

According to local press reports, the president told his then Foreign Affairs Minister Zain Noorani: "Mr. Noorani, if you sign in Geneva in a hurry, you will be lynched by the people."

Diplomats here have said that the United States and Pakistan have encouraged the mujahidin to strike quickly in a bid to capture key Afghan towns, but added that they believe the rebels will adopt a cautious approach for fear of debilitating reprisals from the Soviet Army.

Western intelligence service members said that Pakistanis had been sent to Afghanistan to advise rebels on how to use new weapons.

Some diplomats said that Dr. Najibullah might decide to halt the withdrawal of Soviet troops agreed under the Geneva accords, which would put further pressure on Gen. Ziaul Haq, who wants to repatriate some 3.5 million Afghan refugees now living in Pakistan.

Pakistan's nine-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy on Tuesday accused the government of ignoring the Geneva accords and said the refugees must go if social harmony is to return to this troubled country.

Meanwhile, a goods train was derailed Tuesday night about 70 kilometres (45 miles) from the northeastern city of Lahore after an explosion, sources in Islamabad said Wednesday. No one was killed, it said.

Also, a big gas pipeline exploded Monday night in the center of Lahore, in east Pakistan, for unexplained reasons, according to the local press.

Bomb blasts have left 600 people dead in Pakistan in the past year.

Pakistan has accused the Afghan secret service, KHAD, of being behind this "undeclared war" with Pakistan.

President Receives Bangladesh Military Group

BK0706153088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Jun 88

A 9-member Bangladesh military delegation led by Major General Sadiqur Rahman Chowdhury called on the president at the Presidency in Islamabad today and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The delegation leader conveyed to the president a message from Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad. Federal Defense Secretary Syed Ijlal Haider Zaidi and the Bangladesh ambassador to Pakistan were also present at the meeting.

President Meets Muhajir Community Delegation

BK0806112588 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the first and foremost responsibility of the government is to protect the rights of every citizen, and it is determined to fulfill its obligations in accordance with the Constitution. He was talking to an eight-member delegation of Muhajir Rabta Council [organization of people who migrated to Pakistan from India after independence] led by Maulana Wasim Ahmed Nadvi, an ex-MNA [Member of National Assembly], in Islamabad today. He gave a patient hearing to the views expressed by the members of the delegation.

The president urged them to make efforts for the promotion of love, peace, and harmony, keeping in view the larger interests of the nation. He said the welfare and progress of the individual lie in the collective welfare and progress of the country.

Briefs

Austrian Assistance

Under an agreement, Austria is to provide machinery worth $34 million for the Pakistan Steel and Tarbela Dam Project. In an interview in Islamabad today the Austrian ambassador to Pakistan, Dr Paul Hartig, said that under the contract, a billet caster plant will be manufactured [as heard] for the Pakistan Steel and a sewage pipeline worth $25 million will be provided for the Tarbela Dam extension project. He said Austria is also providing a grant of nearly $2 million for a tourist resort at (Naranchagah) in Swat where residential facilities are being provided for the tourists. [Text] [*BK0506132888 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Jun 88*]